ACTION COMICS

ぴっぴら帳

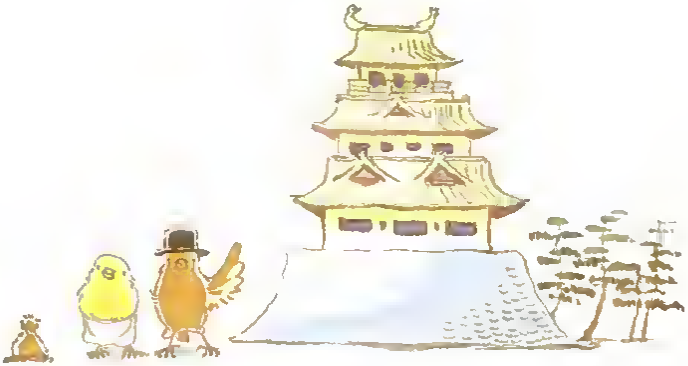
完結編

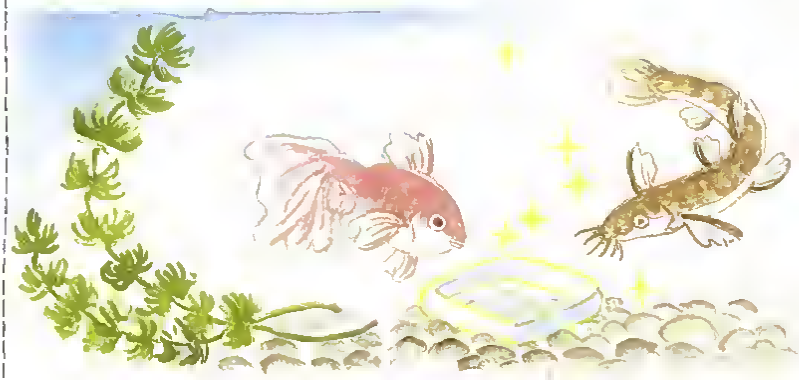
こうの史代

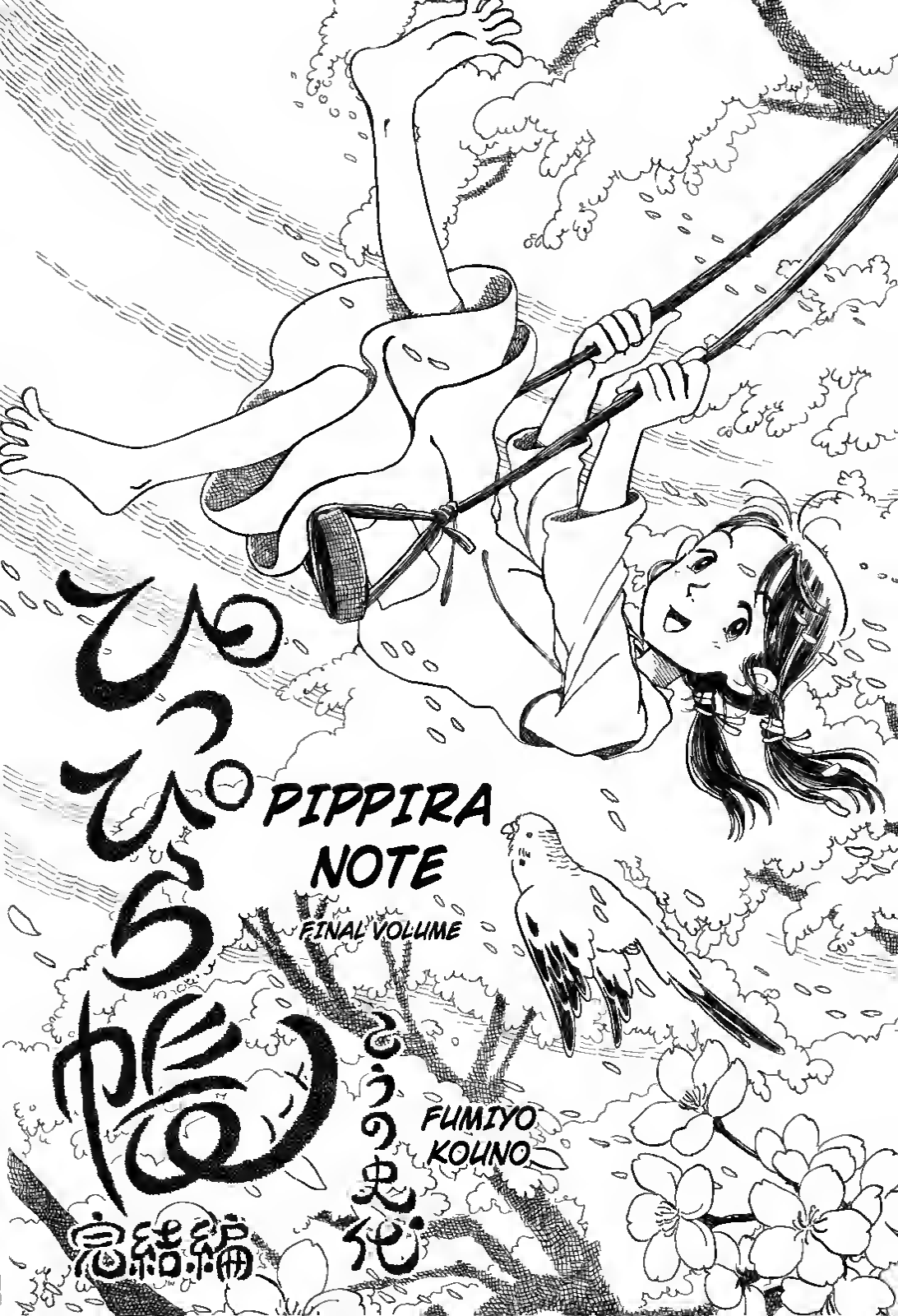
双葉社

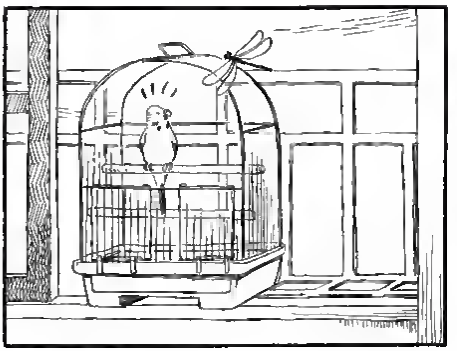
CUT THESE OUT AND USE THEM FOR BOOK-MARKS!

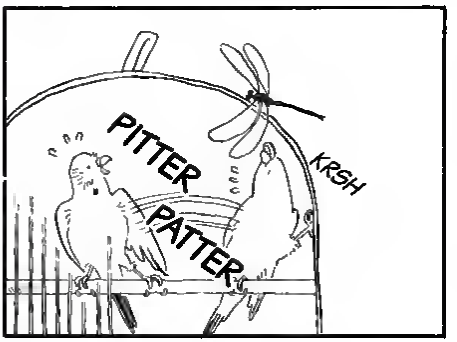
WITH THESE, FOUR PEOPLE CAN READ THIS BOOK AT THE SAME TIME!

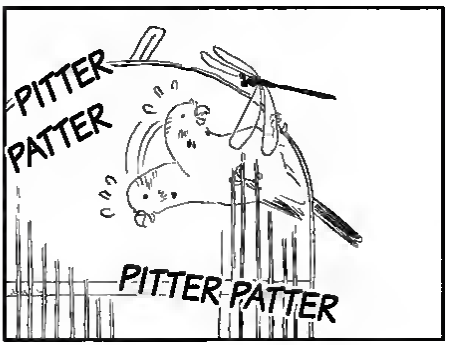


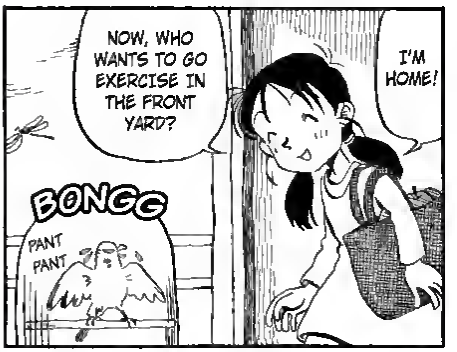



ぴっぴら帳
PIPPIRA NOTE
FINAL VOLUME
完結編
ひうの史代
FUMIYO KOUNO



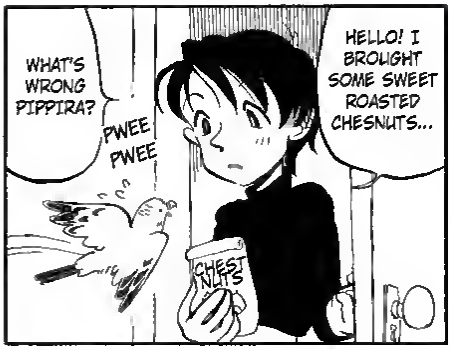

PITTER
PATTER
KRSH

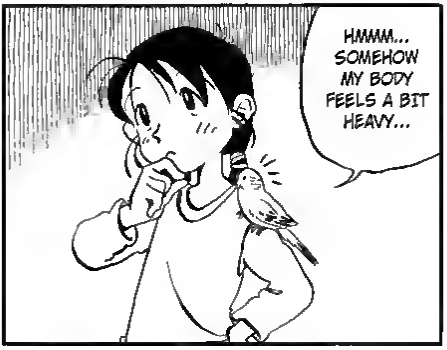

PITTER
PATTER
PITTER PATTER


NOW, WHO WANTS TO GO EXERCISE IN THE FRONT YARD?
I'M HOME!
BONGG
PANT
PANT

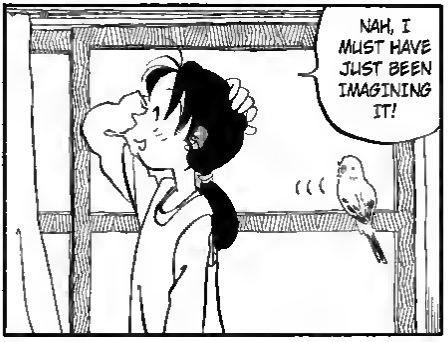
PART 30

THIS YEAR I'M TRYING TO MAKE ONE THAT'S 4 METERS!!
LAST YEAR I MADE AN APPLE PEEL THAT WAS 3 METERS AND ONE THAT WAS 5...
HEY NOW, DON'T GET TOO CLOSE TO THE KNIFE...
.....
.....
AH!
CHORM CHORM
YOU REALLY ATE THE WHOLE THING!?
BY WHICH I MEAN...
URP!
CHORM CHORM
YES, YES, GOOD JOB.

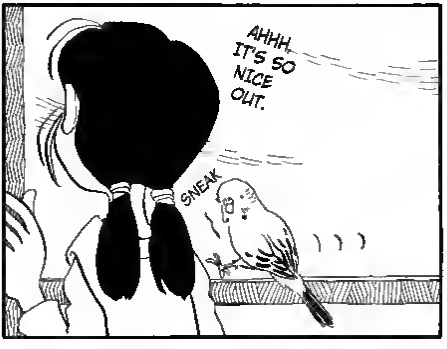

WHAT'S WRONG PIPPIRA?
PWEE PWEE
HELLO! I BROUGHT SOME SWEET ROASTED CHESTNUTS...
CHEST NUTS

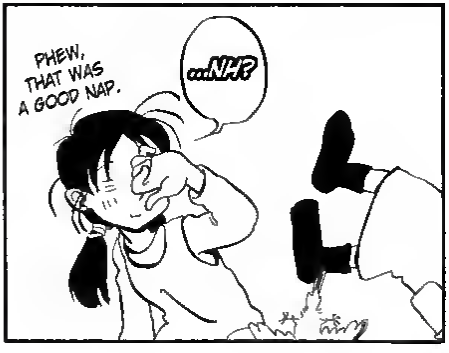

HMMM... SOMEHOW MY BODY FEELS A BIT HEAVY...

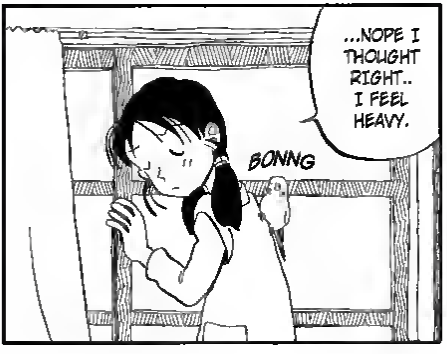
KIMIKO!!

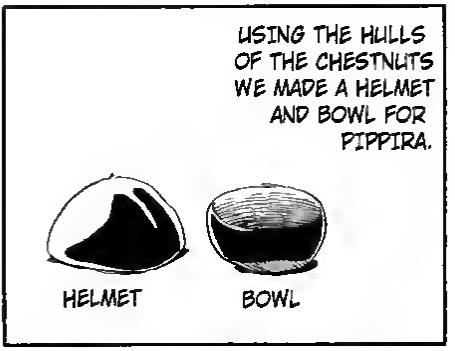

NAH, I MUST HAVE JUST BEEN IMAGINING IT!

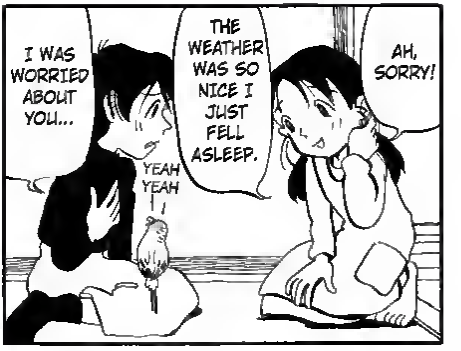
KIMIKO! PLEASE GET UP!
ARE YOU OKAY !?

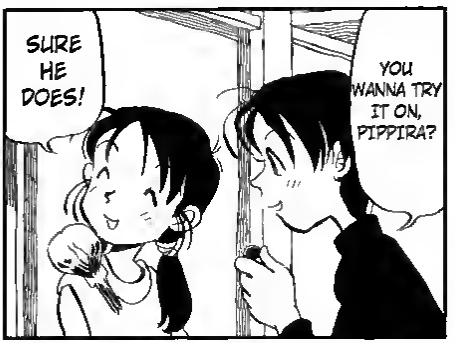

AHHH, IT'S SO NICE OUT.
SNEAK

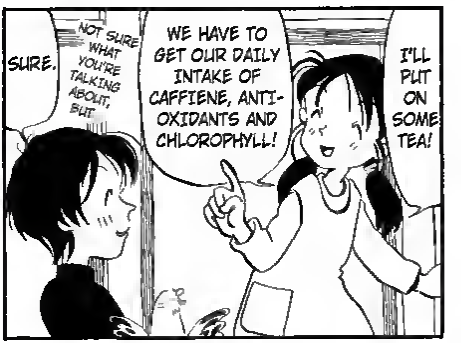

PHEW, THAT WAS A GOOD NAP.
ZZZNAP

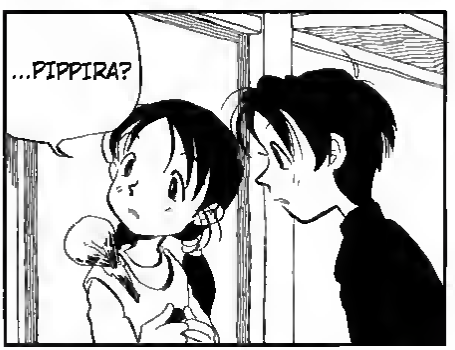

...NOPE I THOUGHT RIGHT.. I FEEL HEAVY.
BONNG


USING THE HULLS OF THE CHESTNUTS WE MADE A HELMET AND BOWL FOR PIPPIRA.
HELMET
BOWL

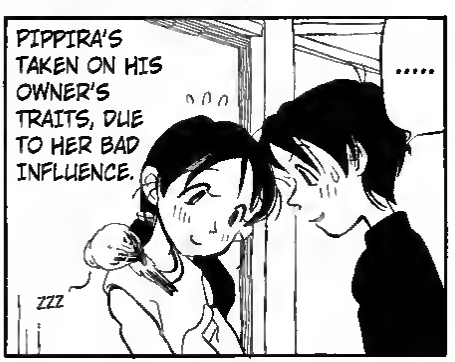

I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU...
THE WEATHER WAS SO NICE I JUST FELL ASLEEP.
AH, SORRY!
YEAH YEAH


SURE HE DOES!
YOU WANNA TRY IT ON, PIPPIRA?

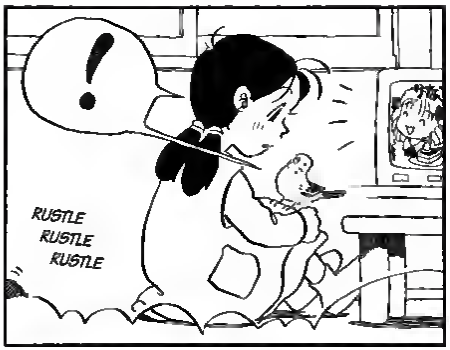

SURE.
NOT SURE WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, BUT
WE HAVE TO GET OUR DAILY INTAKE OF CAFFIENE, ANTI-OXIDANTS AND CHLOROPHYLL!
I'LL PUT ON SOME TEA!

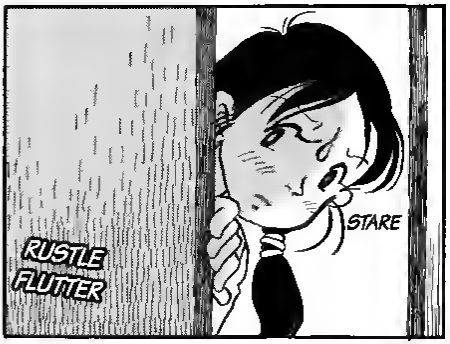

...PIPPIRA?

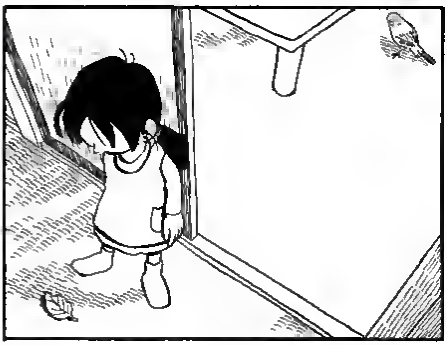
.....
.....

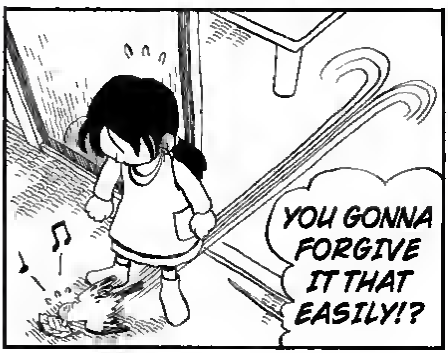

PIPPIRA'S TAKEN ON HIS OWNER'S TRAITS, DUE TO HER BAD INFLUENCE.
.....
ZZZ

DON'T TELL ME YOU WERE TALKING IN YOUR SLEEP!
....OH HEY KATSUMI... WHEN'D YOU GET HERE?
CHI CHI CHI

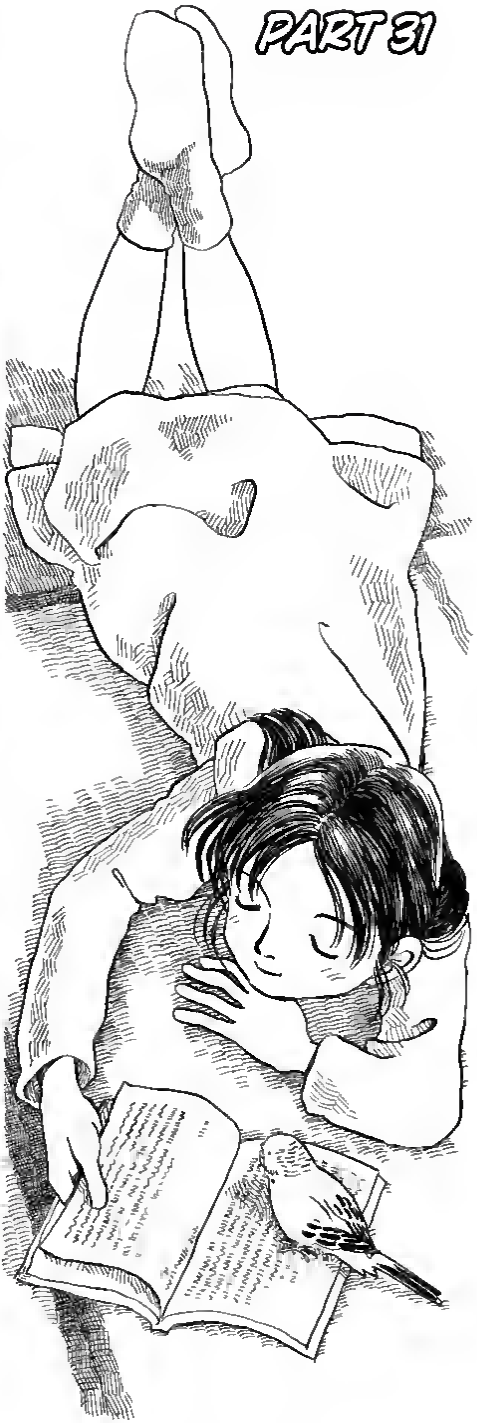

!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

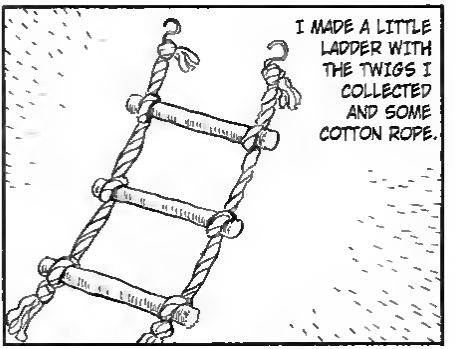

STARE
RUSTLE
FLUTTER

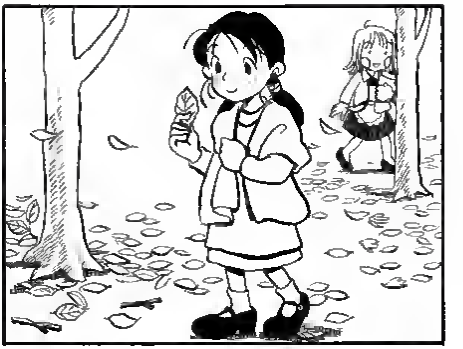


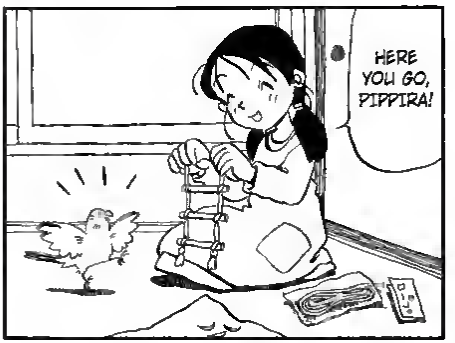

YOU GONNA FORGIVE IT THAT EASILY!?

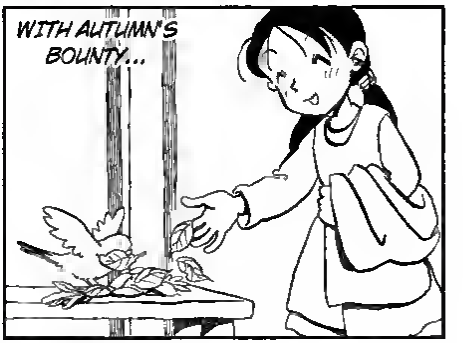
PART 31

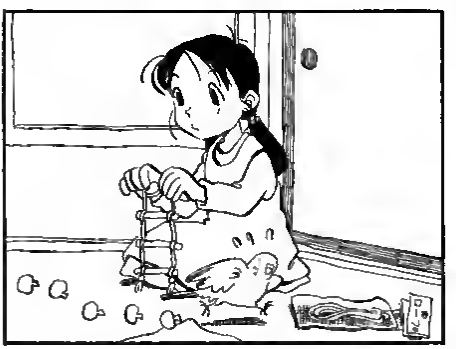


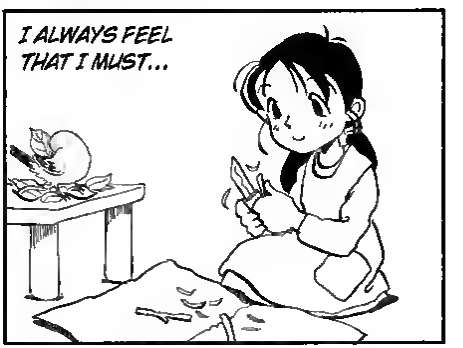

I MADE A LITTLE LADDER WITH THE TWIGS I COLLECTED AND SOME COTTON ROPE.

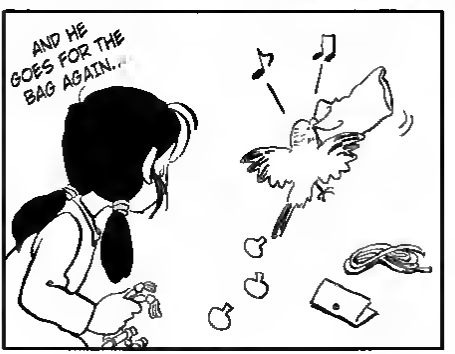


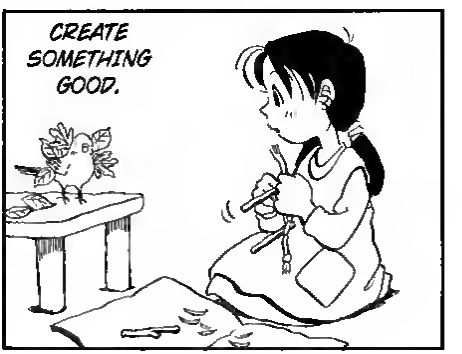

HERE YOU GO, PIPPIRA!

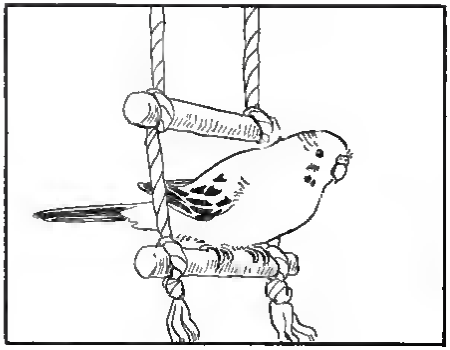

WITH AUTUMN'S BOUNTY...

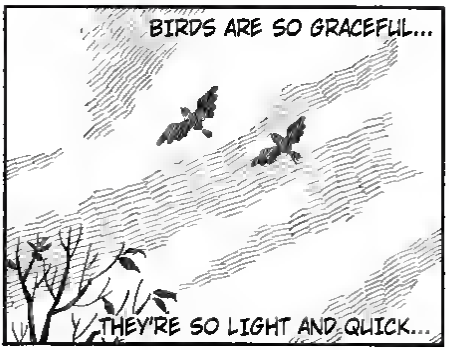


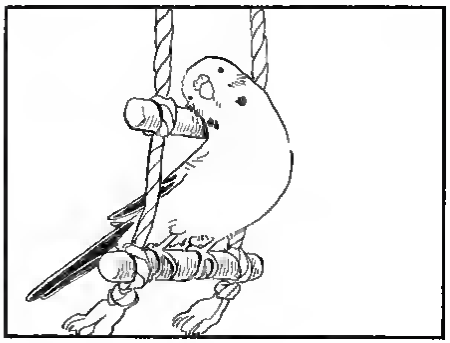

I ALWAYS FEEL THAT I MUST...

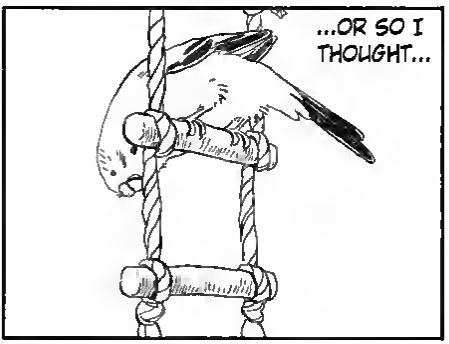

AND HE GOES FOR THE BAG AGAIN...

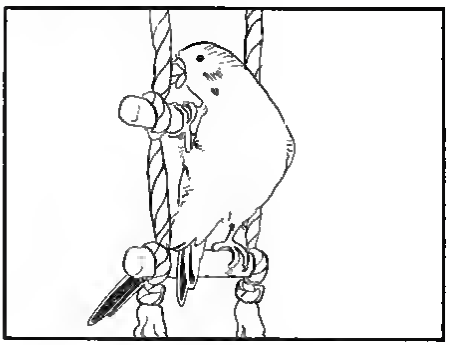

CREATE SOMETHING GOOD.

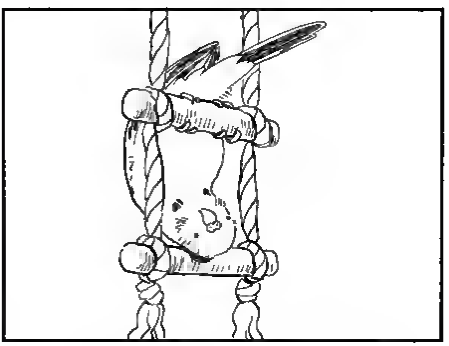


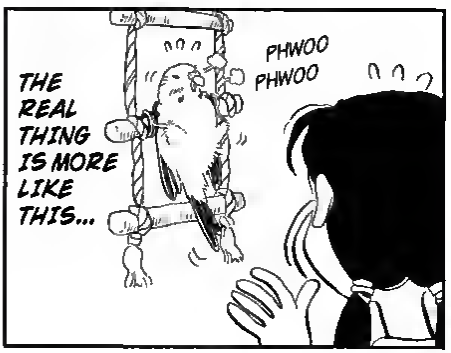

BIRDS ARE SO GRACEFUL...
THEY'RE SO LIGHT AND QUICK...

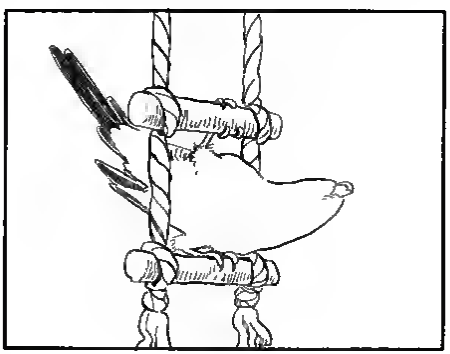


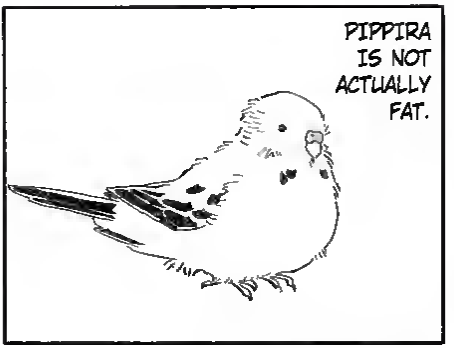

...OR SO I THOUGHT...

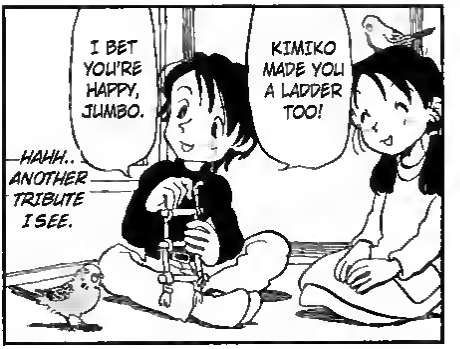


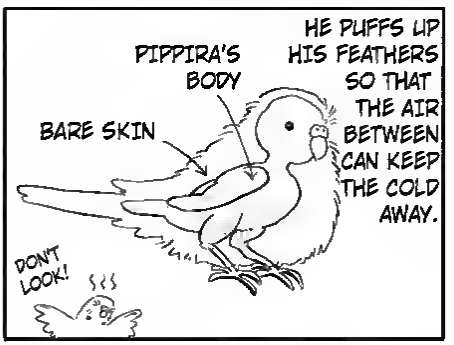


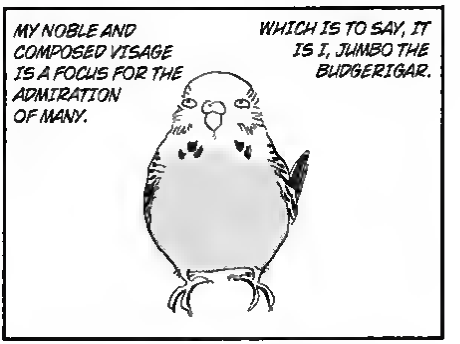

THE REAL THING IS MORE LIKE THIS...
PHWOO PHWOO

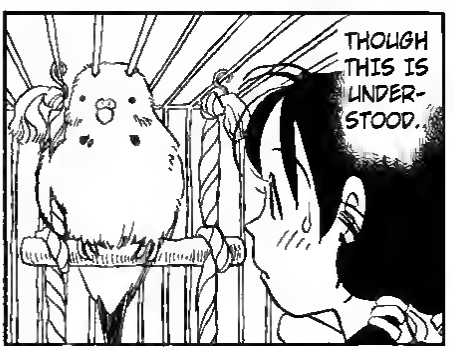


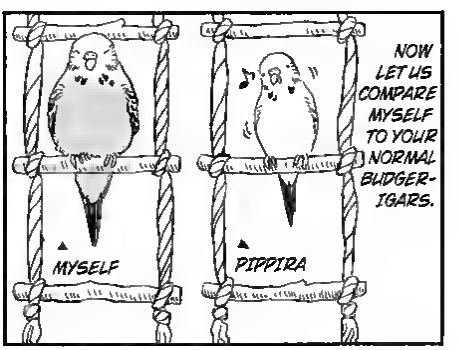

PIPPIRA IS NOT ACTUALLY FAT.

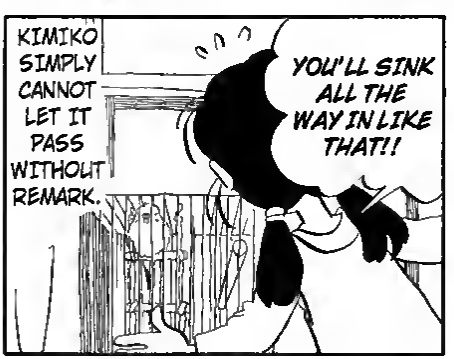

I BET YOU'RE HAPPY, JUMBO.
KIMIKO MADE YOU A LADDER TOO!
HAHH.. ANOTHER TRIBUTE I SEE.

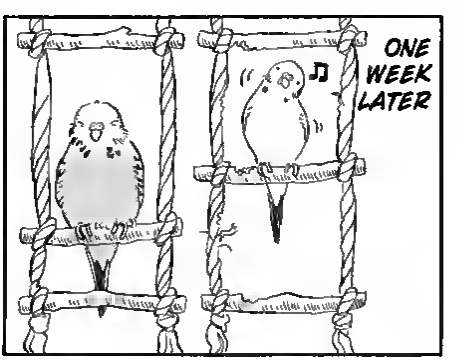

PIPPIRA'S BODY
HE PUFFS UP HIS FEATHERS SO THAT THE AIR BETWEEN CAN KEEP THE COLD AWAY.
BARE SKIN
DON'T LOOK!


MY NOBLE AND COMPOSED VISAGE IS A FOCUS FOR THE ADMIRATION OF MANY.
WHICH IS TO SAY, IT IS I, JUMBO THE BUDGERIGAR.

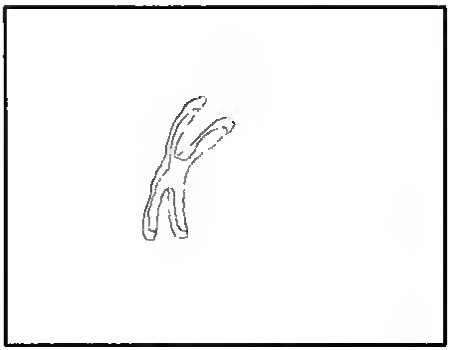

THOUGH THIS IS UNDER-STOOD.


NOW LET US COMPARE MYSELF TO YOUR NORMAL BUDGER-IGARS.
MYSELF
PIPPIRA

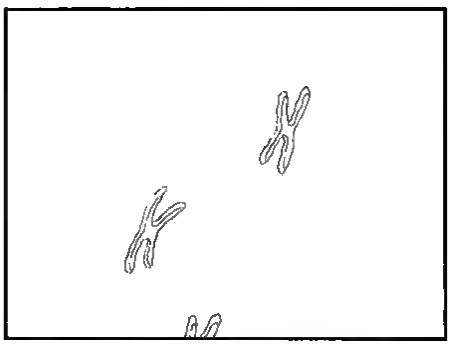

KIMIKO SIMPLY CANNOT LET IT PASS WITHOUT REMARK.
YOU'LL SINK ALL THE WAY IN LIKE THAT!!

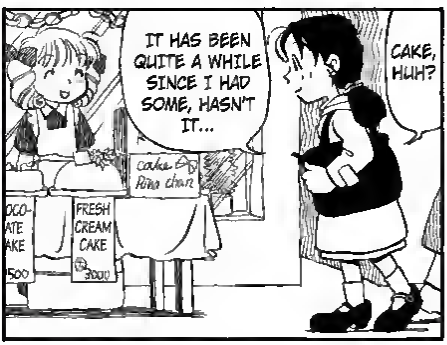

ONE WEEK LATER

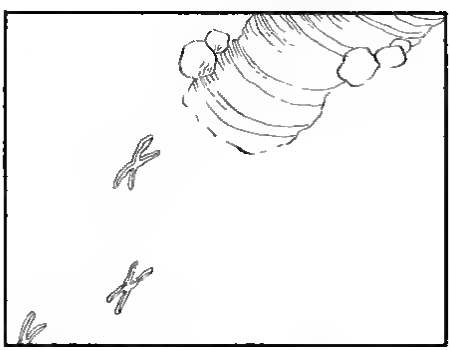
PART
32
AH!



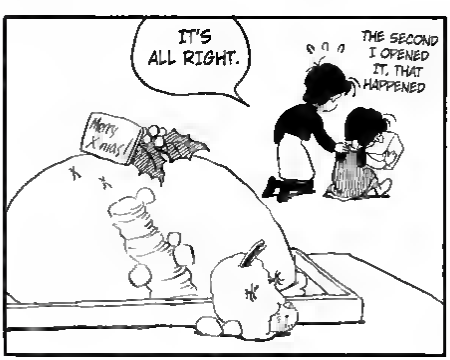
cake
Rina-chan



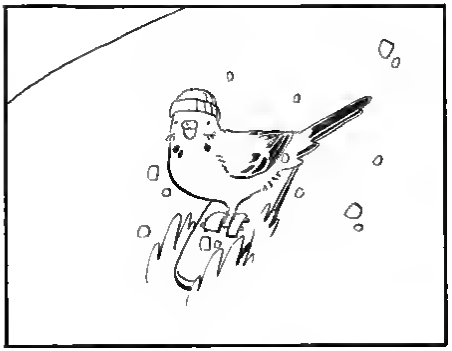

IT HAS BEEN QUITE A WHILE SINCE I HAD SOME, HASN'T IT...
CAKE, HUH?
cake by Rina-chan
FRESH CREAM CAKE
3000
1500

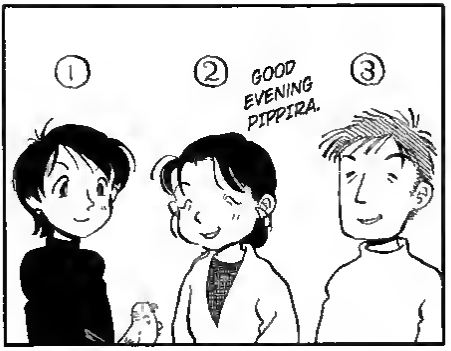


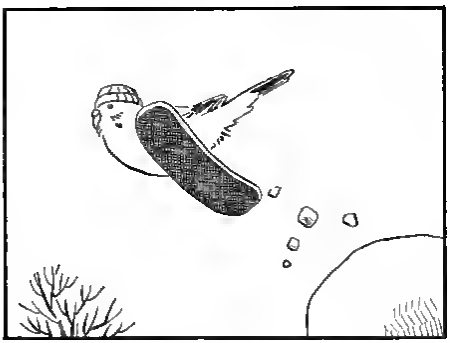
SO I WENT AND BOUGHT THE BIGGEST ONE THEY HAD!!
cake Rina-chan

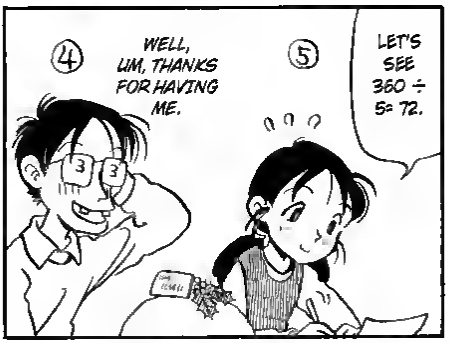

IT'S ALL RIGHT.
THE SECOND I OPENED IT, THAT HAPPENED
Merry X'mas!

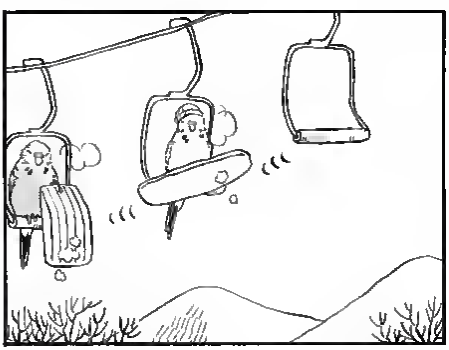
I THOUGHT YOU WOULDN'T.
EVEN THOUGH I DIDN'T HAVE ANY PLANS...
AND YOU DIDN'T EVEN CALL ME UP FIRST TO MAKE SURE!!

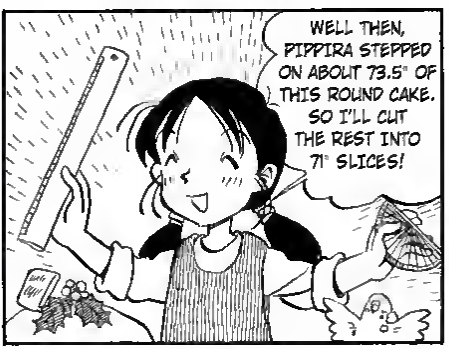


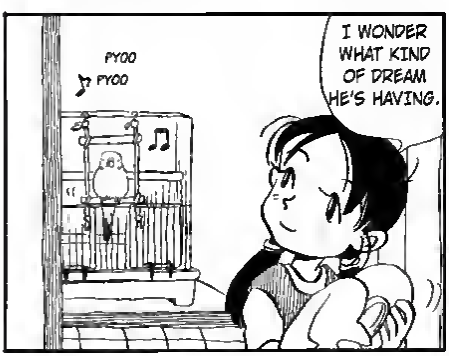

①
②
GOOD EVENING PIPPIRA.
③

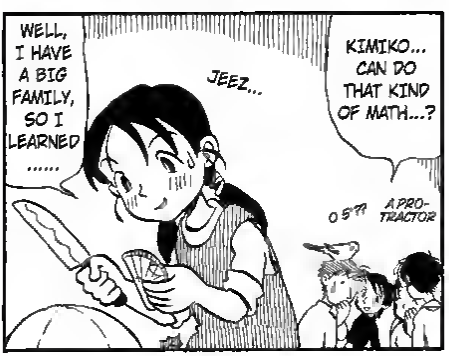


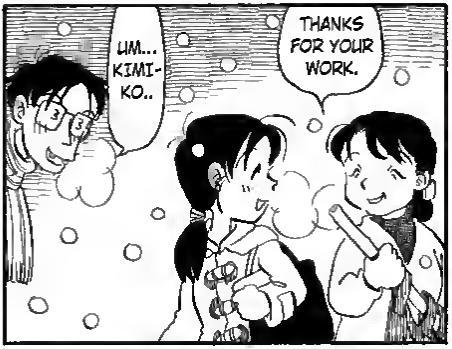

④
WELL, UM, THANKS FOR HAVING ME.
⑤
LET'S SEE 360 ÷ 5= 72.

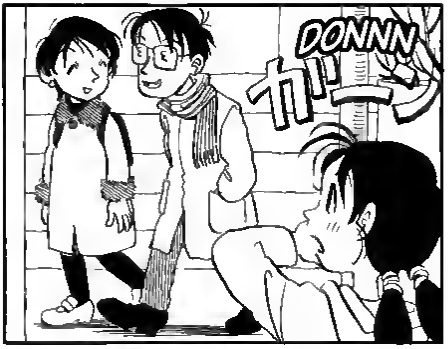


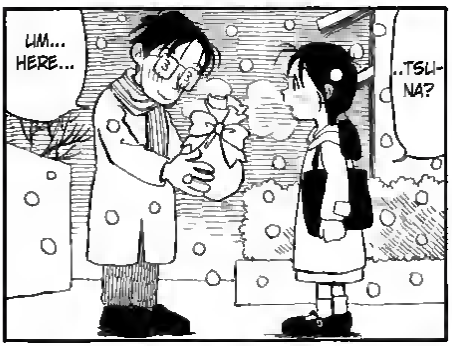

WELL THEN, PIPPIRA STEPPED ON ABOUT 73.5° OF THIS ROUND CAKE. SO I'LL CUT THE REST INTO 71° SLICES!

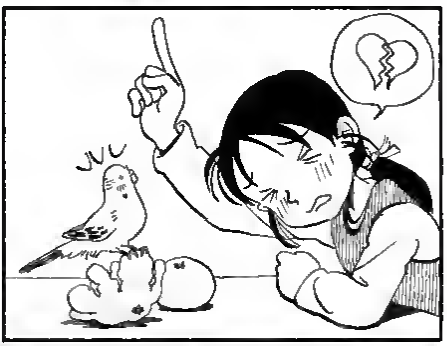

PYOO
♪ PYOO
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF DREAM HE'S HAVING.


WELL, I HAVE A BIG FAMILY, SO I LEARNED .....
JEEZ...
KIMIKO... CAN DO THAT KIND OF MATH...?
A PRO-TRACTOR

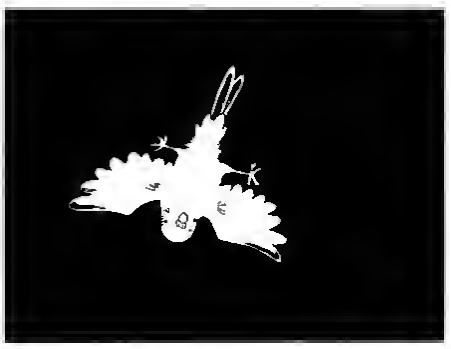

UM... KIMI-KO..
THANKS FOR YOUR WORK.

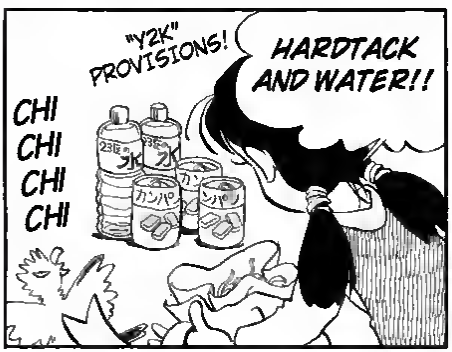

DONNN
ガーン

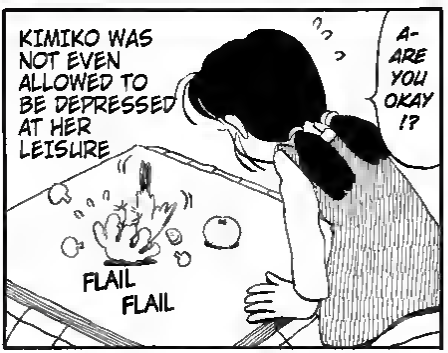

UM... HERE...
..TSU-NA?

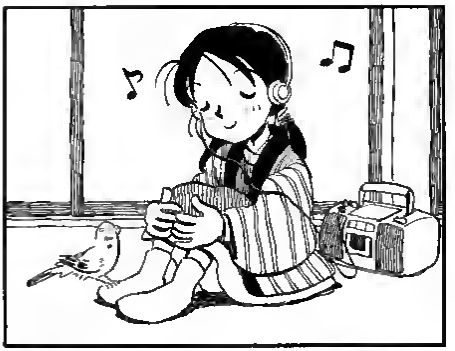

JU

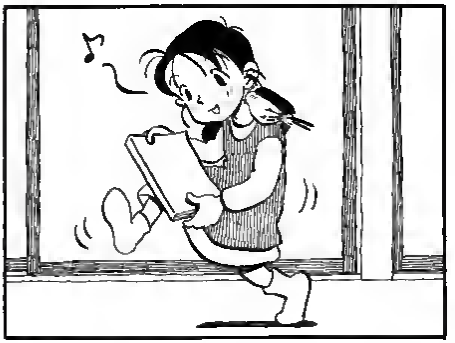
OH, WELL THEN...
I ASKED YOUR FRIEND WHAT TO GET SO I'D BE SURE YOU WOULD LIKE IT....

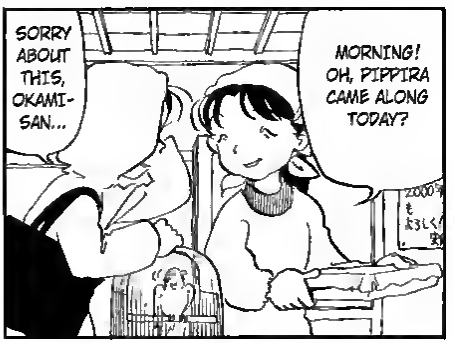


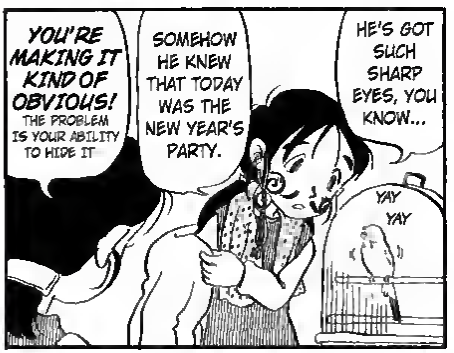

"Y2K" PROVISIONS!
HARDTACK AND WATER!!
CHI CHI CHI CHI

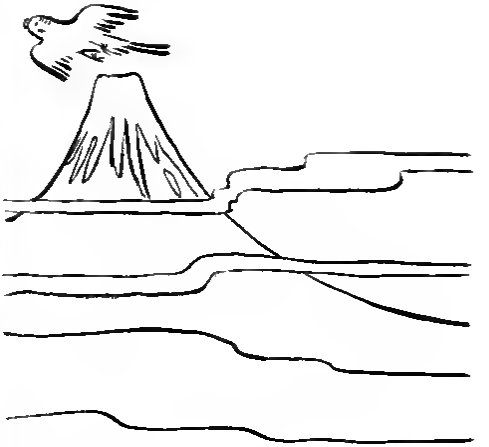

KIMIKO WAS NOT EVEN ALLOWED TO BE DEPRESSED AT HER LEISURE
A-ARE YOU OKAY!?
FLAIL FLAIL



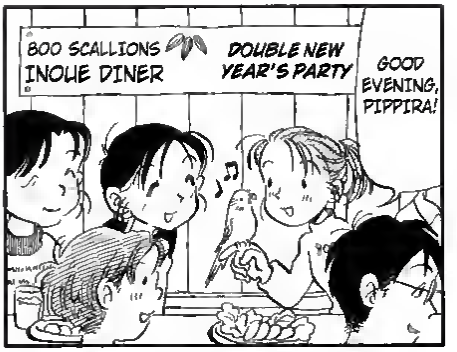


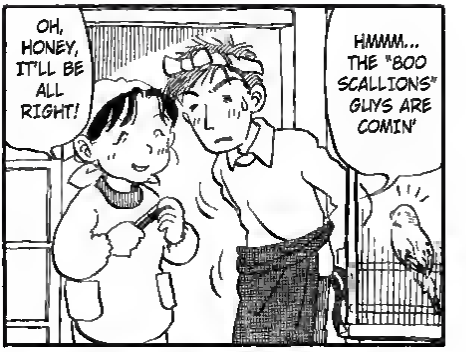

SORRY ABOUT THIS, OKAMI-SAN...
MORNING! OH, PIPPIRA CAME ALONG TODAY?

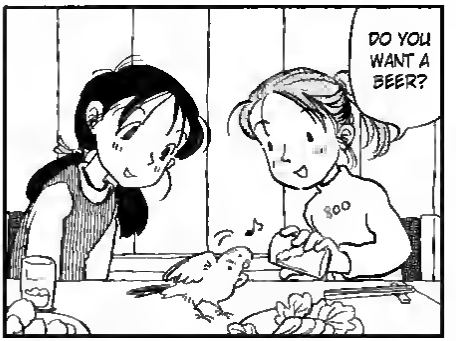

YOU'RE MAKING IT KIND OF OBVIOUS!
THE PROBLEM IS YOUR ABILITY TO HIDE IT
SOMEHOW HE KNEW THAT TODAY WAS THE NEW YEAR'S PARTY.
HE'S GOT SUCH SHARP EYES, YOU KNOW...
YAY YAY



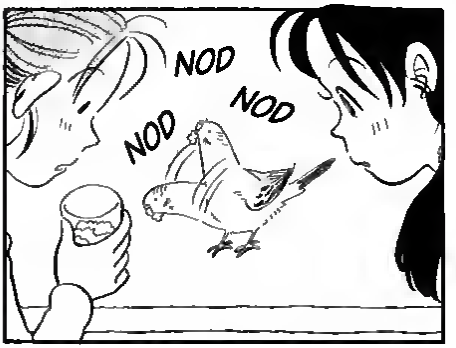
PART 33

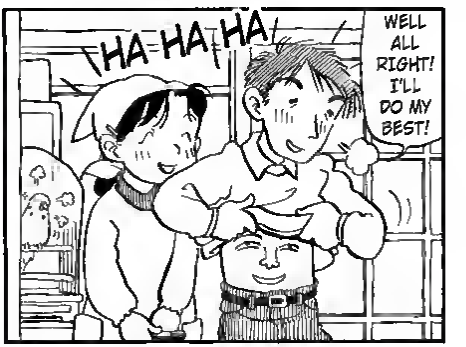

BOO SCALLIONS
INOUE DINER
DOUBLE NEW YEAR'S PARTY
GOOD EVENING, PIPPIRA!

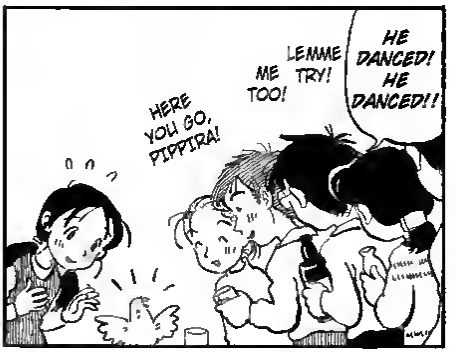

OH, HONEY, IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT!
HMMM... THE "BOO SCALLIONS" GUYS ARE COMIN'


DO YOU WANT A BEER?
BOO

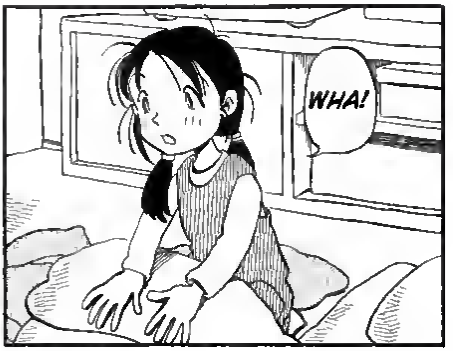
.....
.....
I BELIEVE IN YOU.
YOU SHOULD SHOW ME YOUR MANLY WILL THIS YEAR TOO.

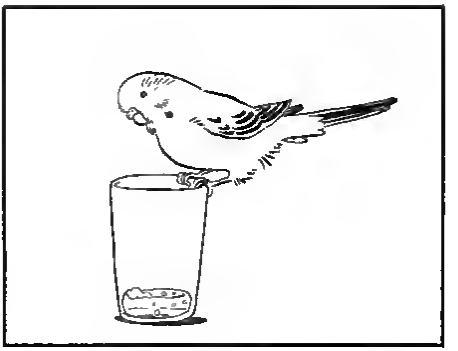

NOD
NOD
NOD

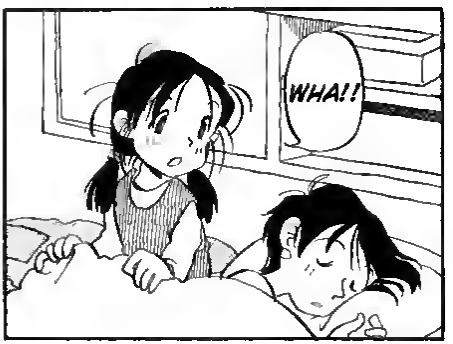

HA HA HA
WELL ALL RIGHT! I'LL DO MY BEST!

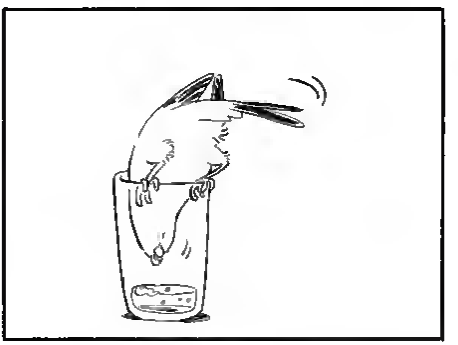

HE DANCED! HE DANCED!!
LEMME TRY!
ME TOO!
HERE YOU GO, PIPPIRA!

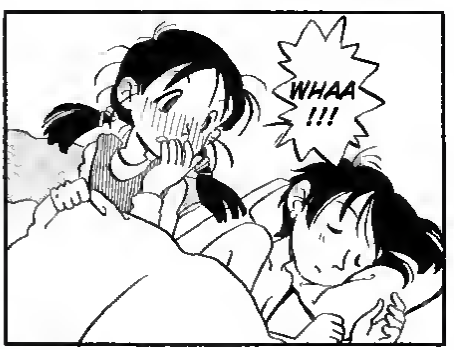
WHAT ARE YOU SO HAPPY ABOUT?
?
NYE HEH HEH

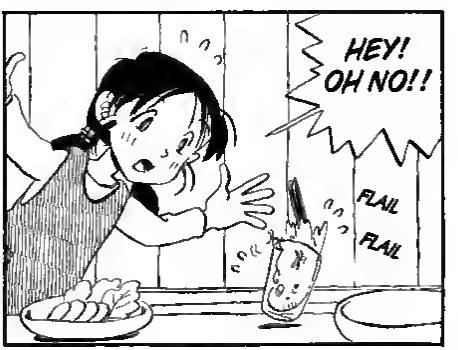

WHA!

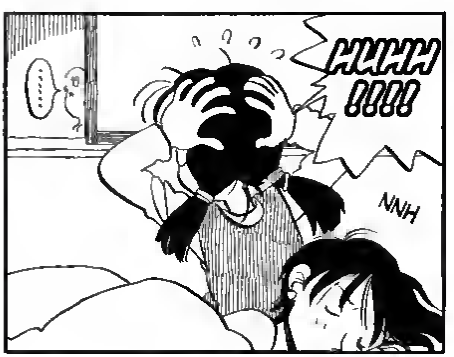


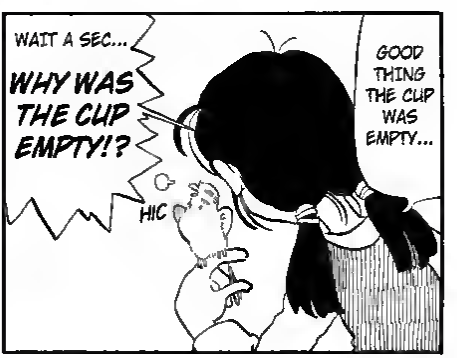

WHA!!




WHAA !!!

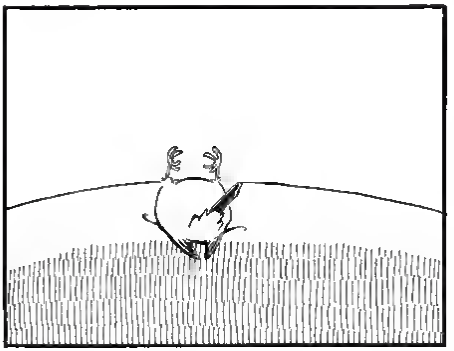

HEY! OH NO!!
FLAIL
FLAIL


HUHH !!!!
NNH

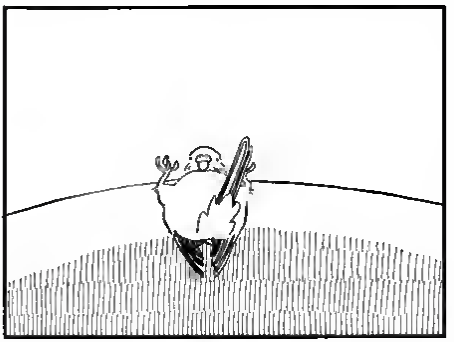

WAIT A SEC...
WHY WAS THE CUP EMPTY!?
HIC
GOOD THING THE CUP WAS EMPTY...

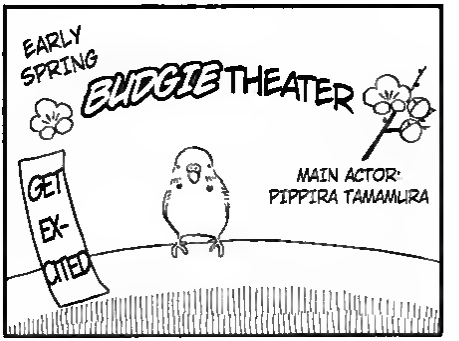
MAN, KIMI, I LOST BAD AGAINST YOUR SECRET SKILL.
OH, HI KIMIKO.
KATSUMI, ARE YOU ON YOUR WAY HOME?
AW, WELL.
I WAS TRULY TAKEN BY SURPRISE!
AHAHA, WELL FEEL FREE TO DO THAT!
I WAS THINKING ABOUT ASKING YOU OVER.
IT WAS REALLY GOOD, BUT I WONDER WHEN YOU GOT A CHANCE TO PRACTICE.
I WAS SURE YOU WERE GOING TO DO A TRADITIONAL DANCE!
ZZZZ
ZZZZ
SLIDE
OHHH NOOO!!
THAT SCORPION DEADLOCK.
I GOT THE ARMBAR
YEAH
ME TOO.
I'M SORRY I'M SO SORRY!!

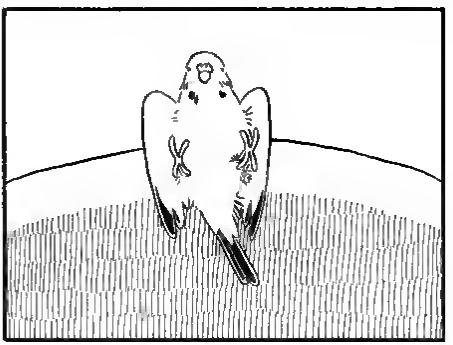
PART 34
YOU SHOULD GO HOME AND GET SOME SLEEP.
YEP, YOU'RE SICK.
I GUESS I SHOULD BE QUIET AND REST...
SHIVER
AUGH.. I FEEL CHILLED. I WISH MY MOM WAS HERE.
"MOM"
...DID YOU CATCH IT TOO?

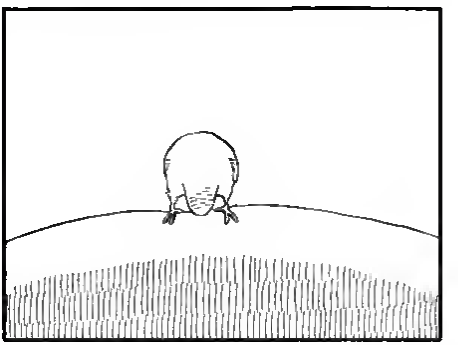


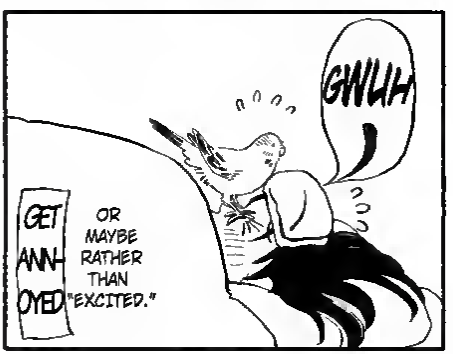
WHEN I WOKE UP, MY NOSE WAS RUNNING...
I BET YOU'RE BORED, HUH.

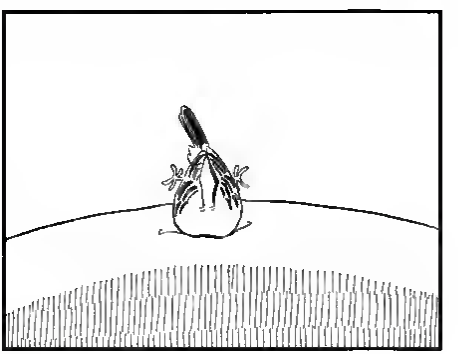


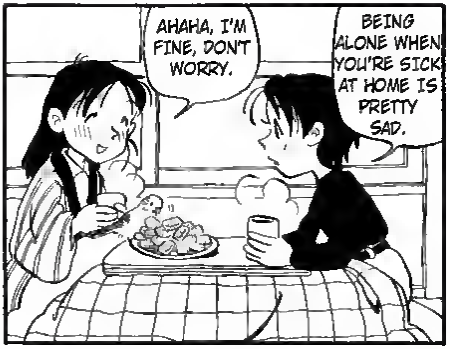

EARLY SPRING
BUDGIE THEATER
GET EX-CITED
MAIN ACTOR: PIPPIRA TAMAMURA



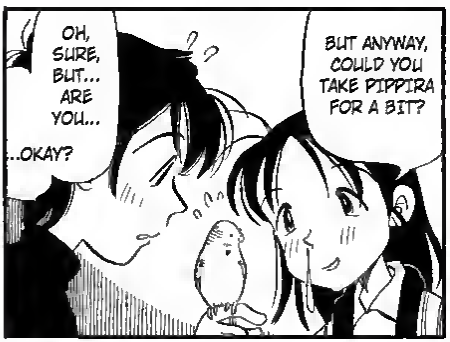



GWUH
GET ANN-OYED
OR MAYBE RATHER THAN "EXCITED."

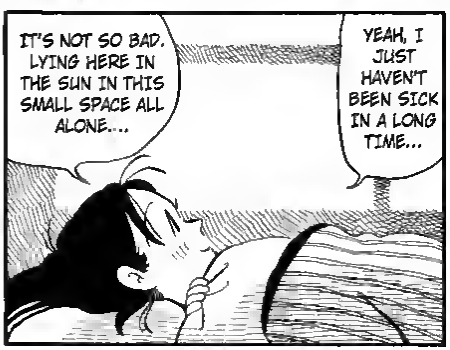



AHAHA, I'M FINE, DON'T WORRY.
BEING ALONE WHEN YOU'RE SICK AT HOME IS PRETTY SAD.

HI KATSU-MI.
ARE YOU EATING RIGHT?
KIMI, I HEARD YOU HAD A COLD!

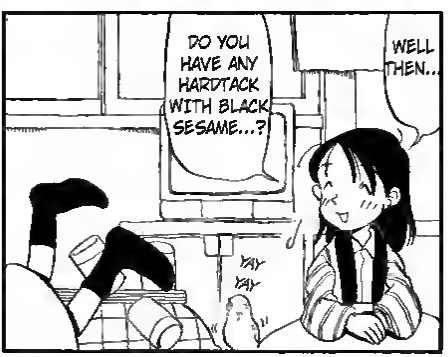

OH, SURE, BUT... ARE YOU...
...OKAY?
BUT ANYWAY, COULD YOU TAKE PIPPIRA FOR A BIT?

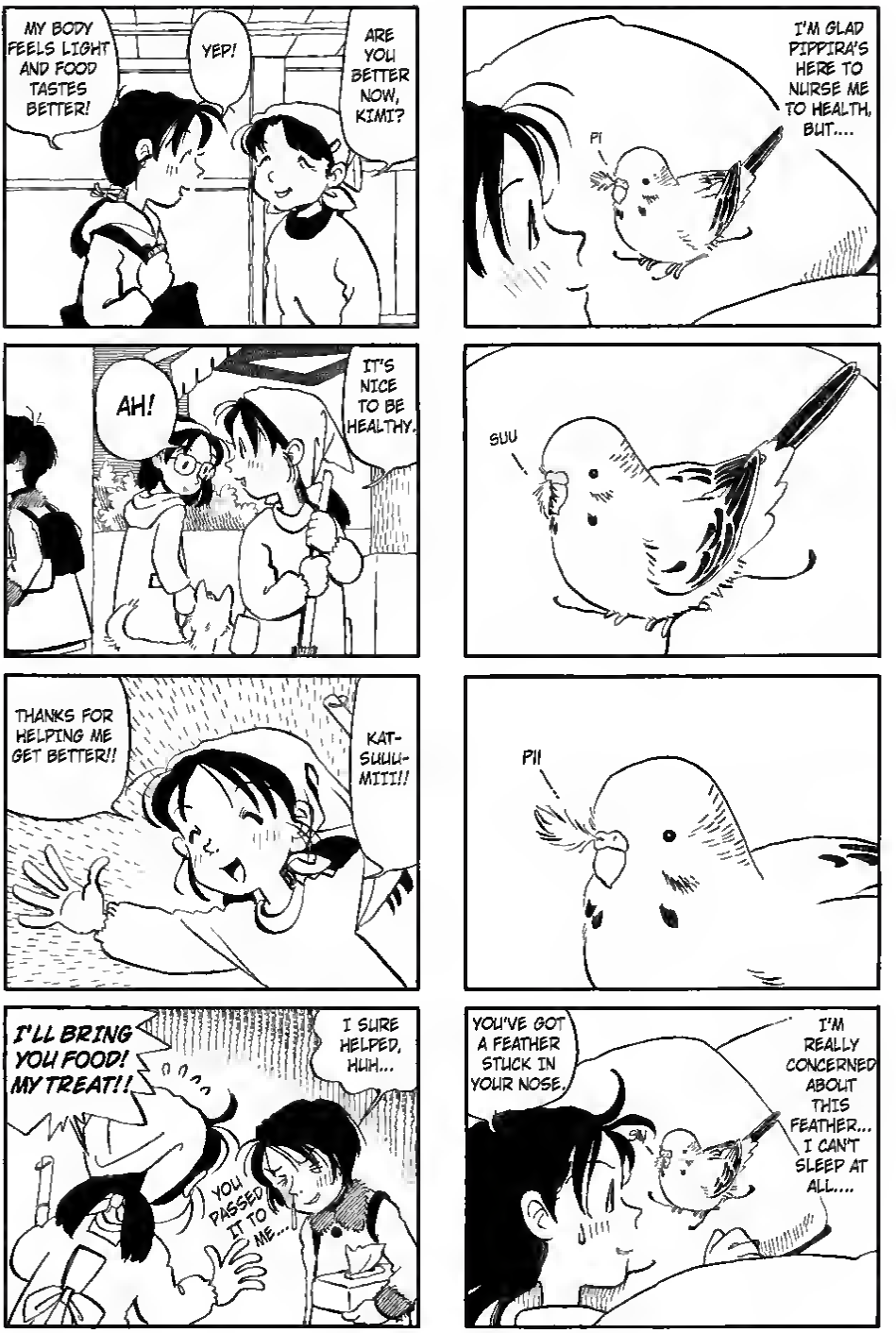
I'M DOING FINE! SEE, I HAVE ALL THIS HARDTACK TO EAT...
THE "Y2K" PREP STUFF

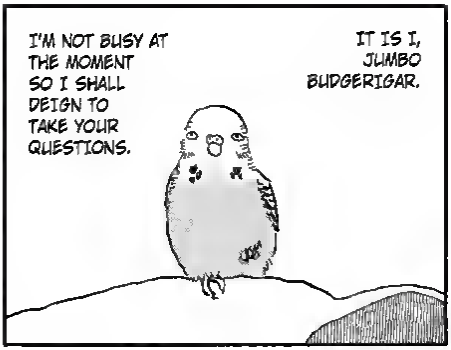

IT'S NOT SO BAD. LYING HERE IN THE SUN IN THIS SMALL SPACE ALL ALONE....
YEAH, I JUST HAVEN'T BEEN SICK IN A LONG TIME...

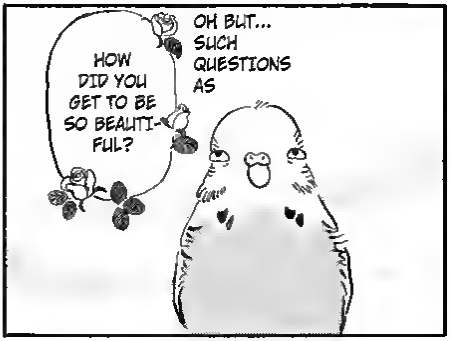
YOU DID!!
I BROUGHT YOU SOME GOOD THINGS TO EAT! WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE?

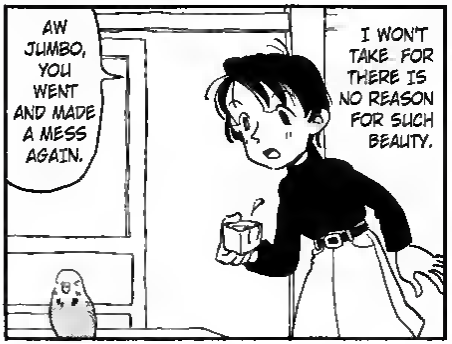
DON'T TALK LIKE YOU'RE DYIN'!!! IT'S JUST A COLD!!
IT'S LIKE I'M LEAVING ON A LONG JOURNEY AND NO ONE KNOWS WHERE I WILL GO.
TAKE GOOD CARE OF PIPPIRA.
CHI CHI
CHI CHI

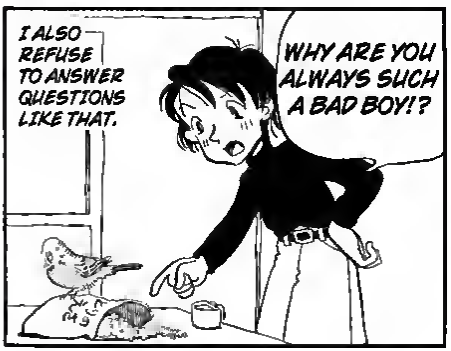

DO YOU HAVE ANY HARDTACK WITH BLACK SESAME...?
WELL THEN...


MY BODY FEELS LIGHT AND FOOD TASTES BETTER!
YEP!
ARE YOU BETTER NOW, KIMI?
I'M GLAD PIPPIRA'S HERE TO NURSE ME TO HEALTH, BUT....
PI
AH!
IT'S NICE TO BE HEALTHY.
SUU
THANKS FOR HELPING ME GET BETTER!!
KAT-SUUU-MIII!!
PII
I'LL BRING YOU FOOD! MY TREAT!!
I SURE HELPED, HUH...
YOU PASSED IT TO ME...
YOU'VE GOT A FEATHER STUCK IN YOUR NOSE.
I'M REALLY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS FEATHER... I CAN'T SLEEP AT ALL....

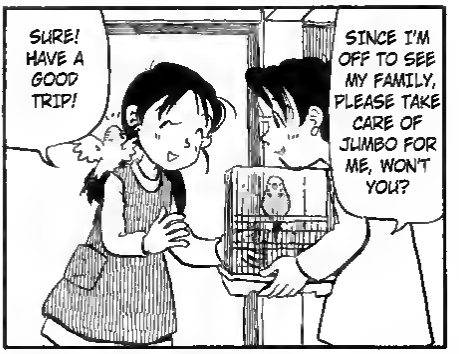

I'M NOT BUSY AT THE MOMENT SO I SHALL DEIGN TO TAKE YOUR QUESTIONS.
IT IS I, JUMBO BUDGERIGAR.


HOW DID YOU GET TO BE SO BEAUTIFUL?
OH BUT... SUCH QUESTIONS AS

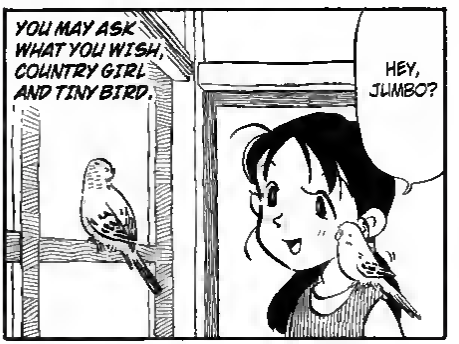

AW JUMBO, YOU WENT AND MADE A MESS AGAIN.
I WON'T TAKE FOR THERE IS NO REASON FOR SUCH BEAUTY.

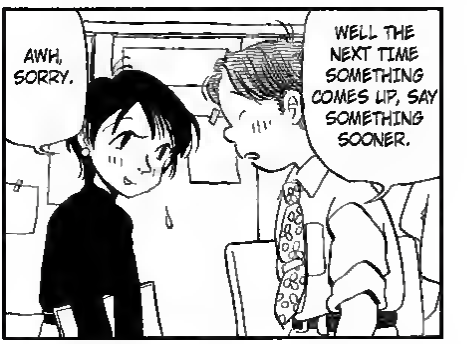

I ALSO REFUSE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS LIKE THAT.
WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS SUCH A BAD BOY!?

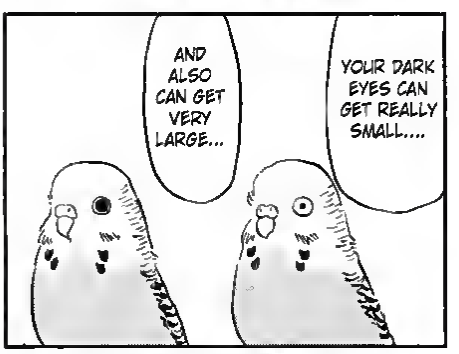
PART 35

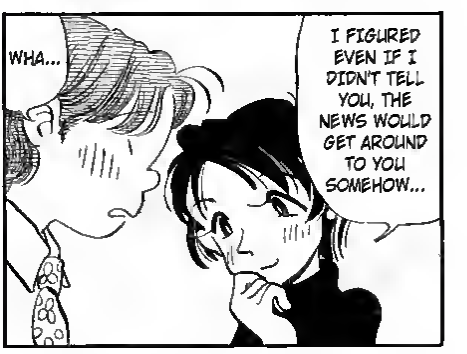

SURE! HAVE A GOOD TRIP!
SINCE I'M OFF TO SEE MY FAMILY, PLEASE TAKE CARE OF JUMBO FOR ME, WON'T YOU?

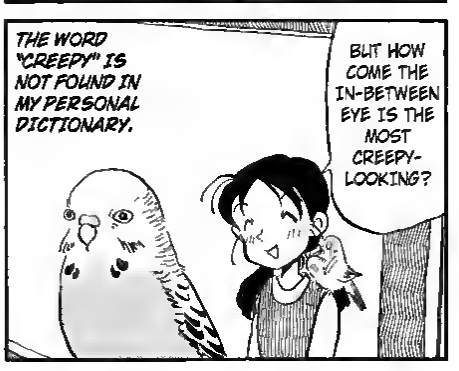
I HAVE TO GO ABROAD FOR A BIT ON A FAMILY MATTER.
KATSUMI, I SAW THAT YOU'RE TAKING NEXT WEEK OFF?

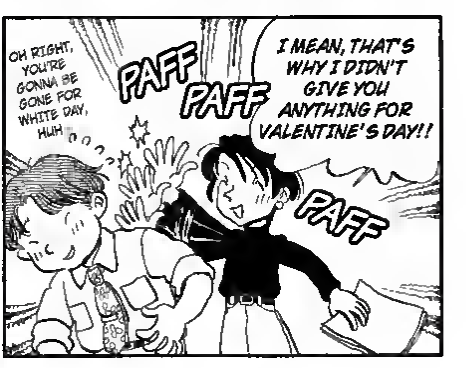

YOU MAY ASK WHAT YOU WISH, COUNTRY GIRL AND TINY BIRD.
HEY, JUMBO?

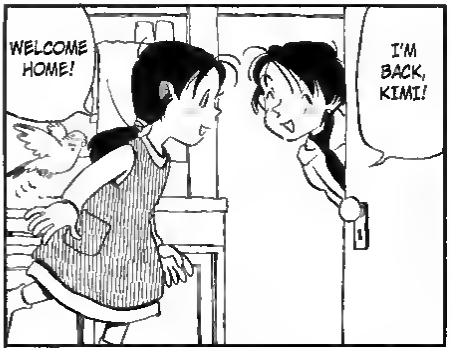

AWH, SORRY.
WELL THE NEXT TIME SOMETHING COMES UP, SAY SOMETHING SOONER.

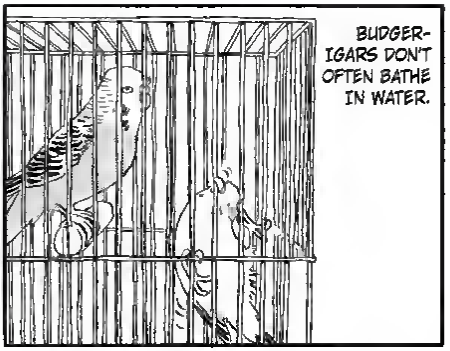

AND ALSO CAN GET VERY LARGE...
YOUR DARK EYES CAN GET REALLY SMALL....

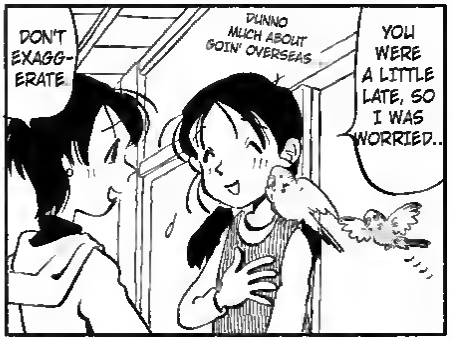

WHA...
I FIGURED EVEN IF I DIDN'T TELL YOU, THE NEWS WOULD GET AROUND TO YOU SOMEHOW...

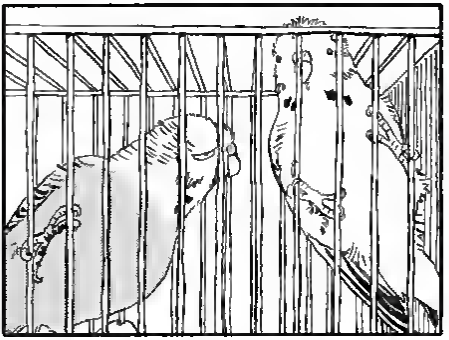

THE WORD "CREEPY" IS NOT FOUND IN MY PERSONAL DICTIONARY.
BUT HOW COME THE IN-BETWEEN EYE IS THE MOST CREEPY-LOOKING?

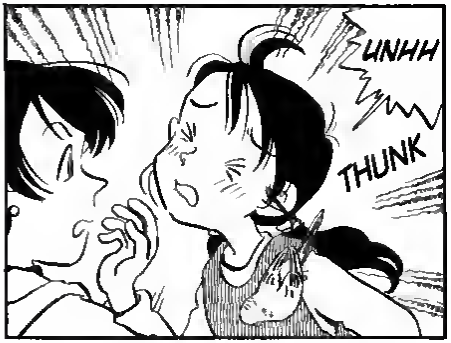

OH RIGHT, YOU'RE GONNA BE GONE FOR WHITE DAY, HUH
PAFF
PAFF
I MEAN, THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T GIVE YOU ANYTHING FOR VALENTINE'S DAY!!
PAFF

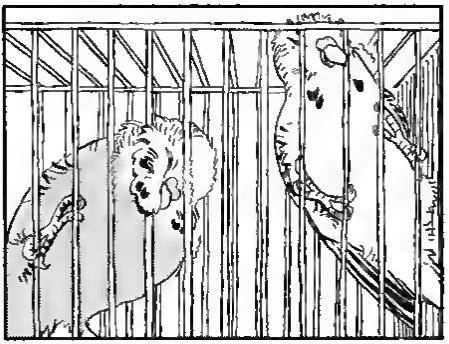

WELCOME HOME!
I'M BACK, KIMI!


BUDGER-IGARS DON'T OFTEN BATHE IN WATER.

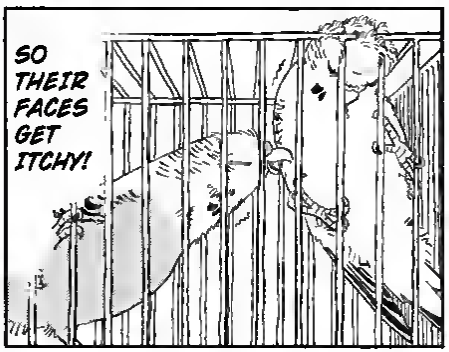

DON'T EXAGG-ERATE
DUNNO MUCH ABOUT GOIN' OVERSEAS
YOU WERE A LITTLE LATE, SO I WAS WORRIED..

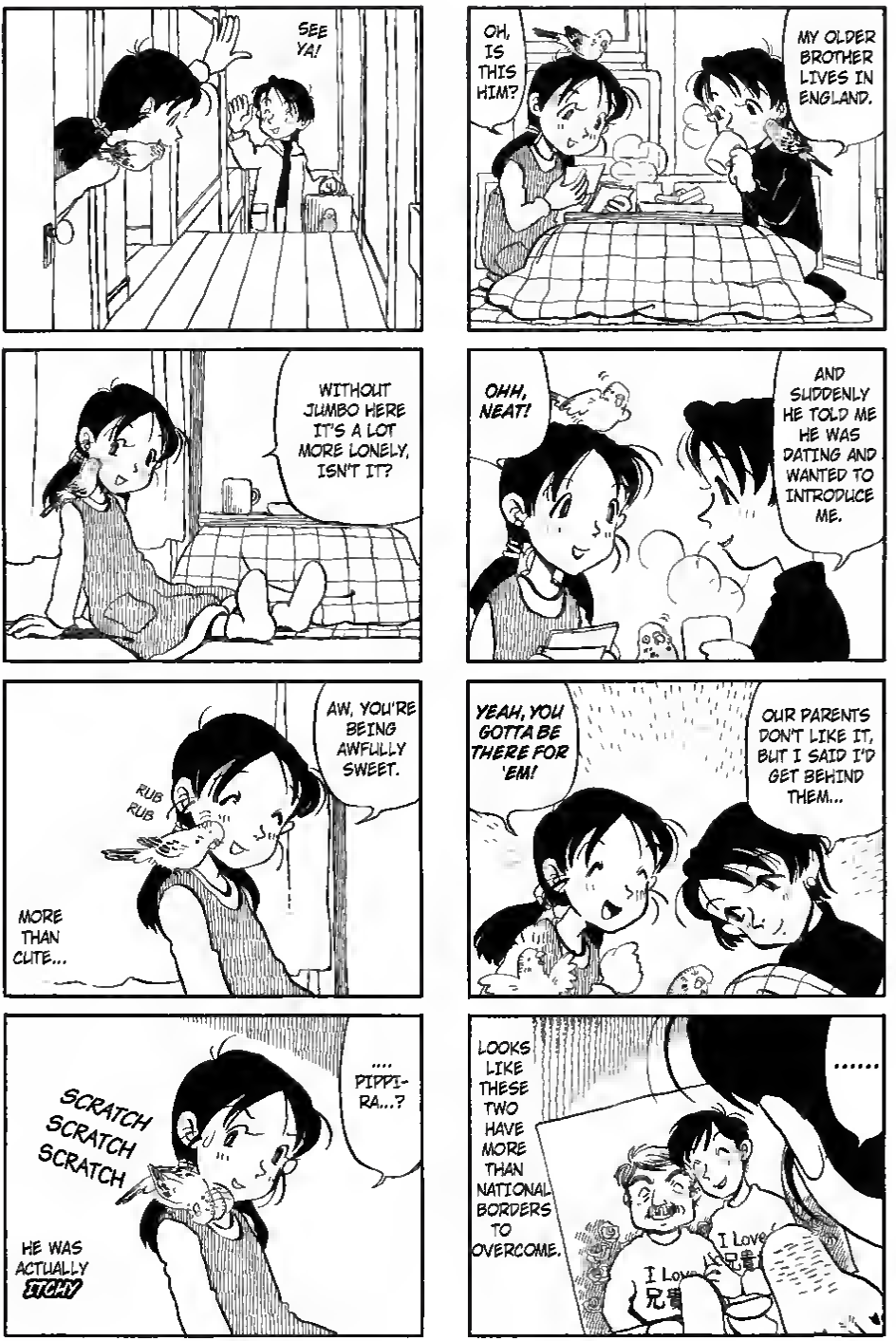


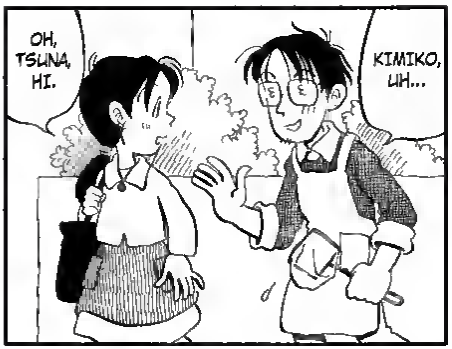

UNHH
THUNK

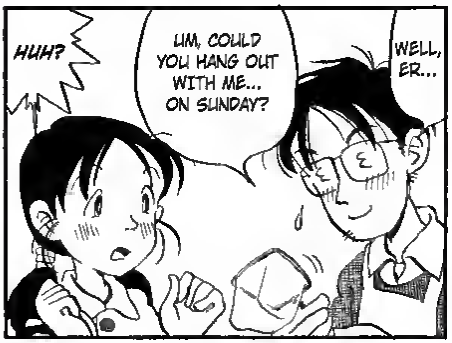


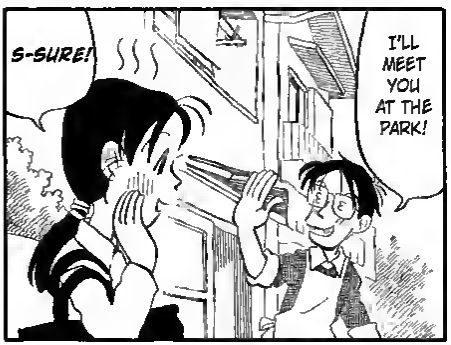
JUMBO... GAINED WEIGHT AGAIN, HUH?


SO THEIR FACES GET ITCHY!


SEE YA!
OH, IS THIS HIM?
MY OLDER BROTHER LIVES IN ENGLAND.
WITHOUT JUMBO HERE IT'S A LOT MORE LONELY, ISN'T IT?
OHH, NEAT!
AND SUDDENLY HE TOLD ME HE WAS DATING AND WANTED TO INTRODUCE ME.
AW, YOU'RE BEING AWFULLY SWEET.
RUB RUB
MORE THAN CUTE...
YEAH, YOU GOTTA BE THERE FOR 'EM!
OUR PARENTS DON'T LIKE IT, BUT I SAID I'D GET BEHIND THEM...
SCRATCH SCRATCH SCRATCH
HE WAS ACTUALLY ITCHY!
....PIPPI-RA...?
LOOKS LIKE THESE TWO HAVE MORE THAN NATIONAL BORDERS TO OVERCOME.
.....
I Love 兄貴
I Love 兄貴


OH, TSUNA, HI.
KIMIKO, UH...

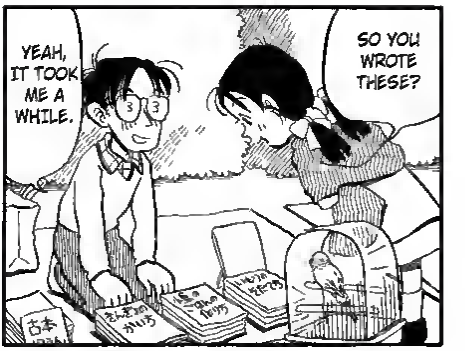

HUH?
UM, COULD YOU HANG OUT WITH ME... ON SUNDAY?
WELL, ER...

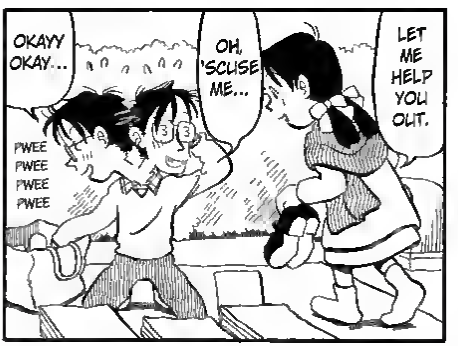

S-SURE!
I'LL MEET YOU AT THE PARK!

OH... IT'S JUST A FLEA MARKET...
FLEA MARKET
OH HEY! COME ON IN!

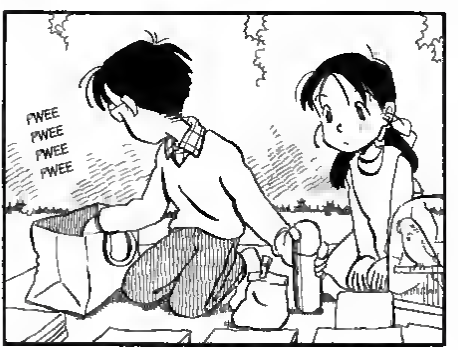
PART 36

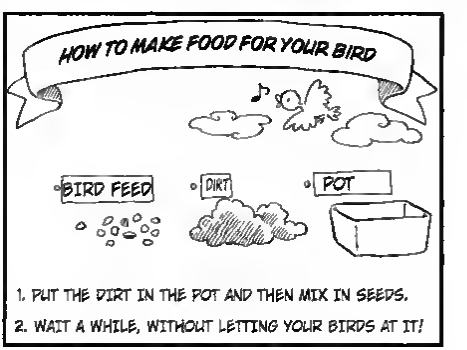
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
OH!

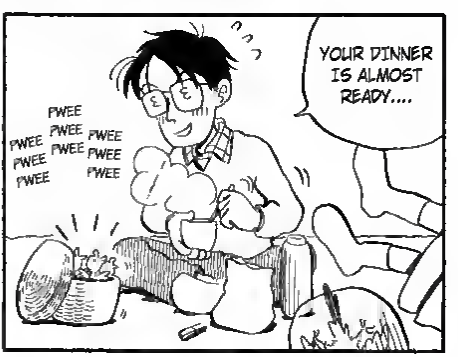

YEAH, IT TOOK ME A WHILE.
SO YOU WROTE THESE?


OKAYY OKAY...
OH, 'SCUSE ME...
LET ME HELP YOU OUT.
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE

OH, THANK YOU!
THEY LOOK GOOD! I'LL TAKE THIS ONE!
MAKING DELICIOUS FOOD FOR BIRDS

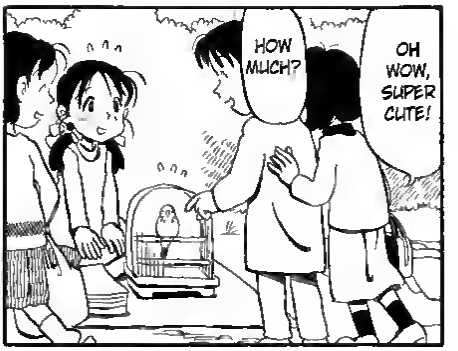

PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE

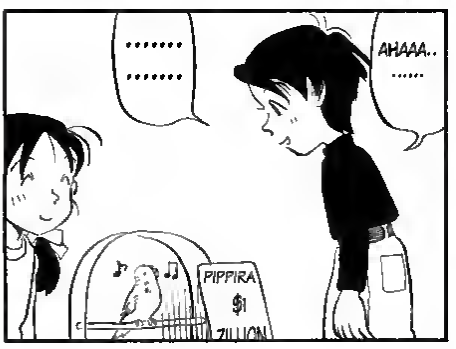

HOW TO MAKE FOOD FOR YOUR BIRD
BIRD FEED
DIRT
POT
1. PUT THE DIRT IN THE POT AND THEN MIX IN SEEDS.
2. WAIT A WHILE, WITHOUT LETTING YOUR BIRDS AT IT!

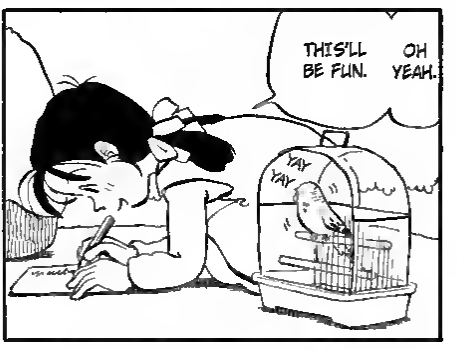

PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
PWEE
YOUR DINNER IS ALMOST READY....

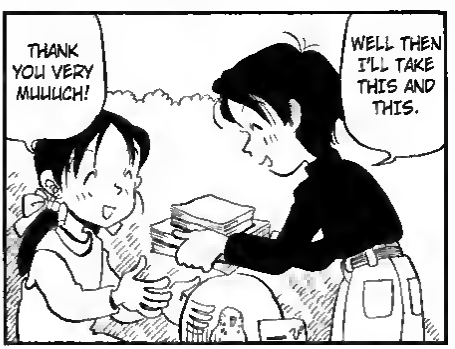
THIS SEEMS KIND OF WRONG...
WHEN FALL COMES AROUND
BON APPETIT!!

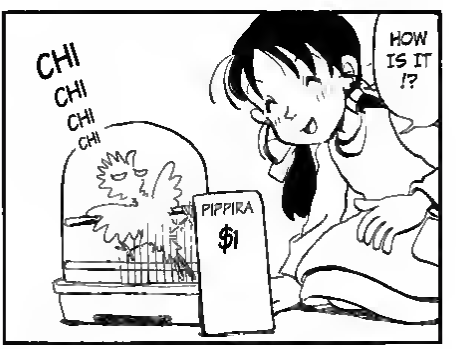
MHM.
OH, KIMI! ARE YOU HELPING OUT?
PIPPIRA
$1
ZILLION


HOW MUCH?
OH WOW, SUPER CUTE!

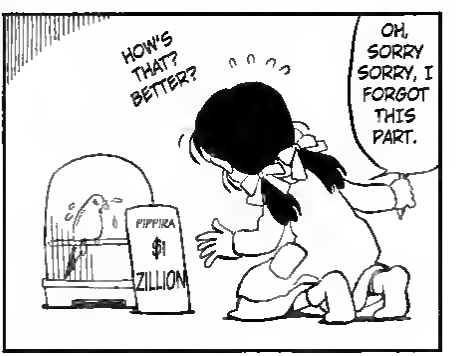

.....
.....
AHAAA..
.....
PIPPIRA
$1
ZILLION

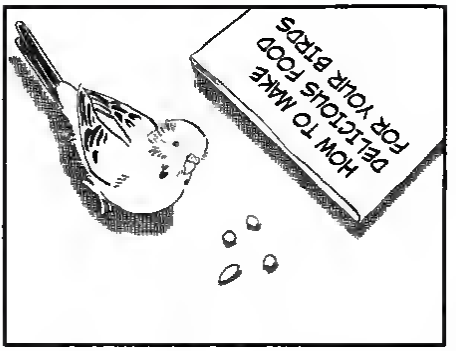

THIS'LL BE FUN.
OH YEAH.
YAY
YAY

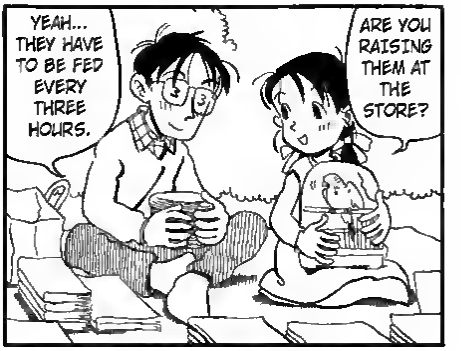

THANK YOU VERY MUUUCH!
WELL THEN I'LL TAKE THIS AND THIS.

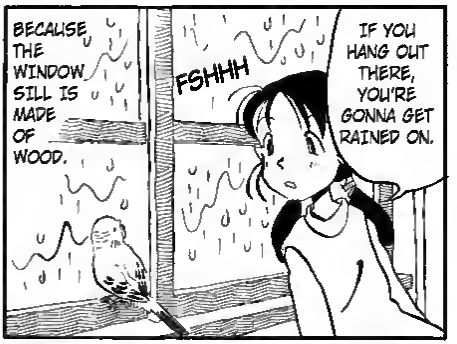

CHI
CHI
CHI
CHI
PIPPIRA
$1
HOW IS IT !?

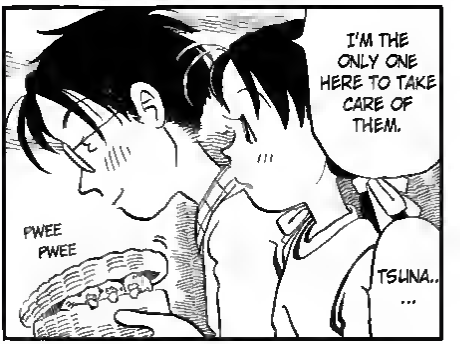
KATSU-MI!!!
WELL, BYE NOW!
CHI
CHI
CHI
PIPPIRA
$1
ZILLION

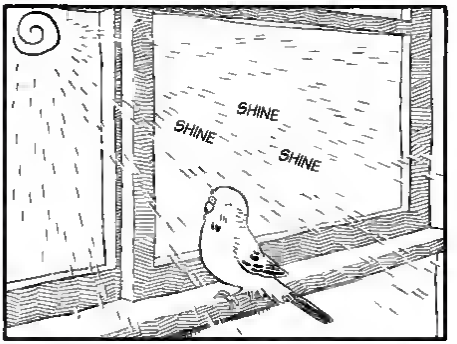

HOW'S THAT? BETTER?
OH, SORRY SORRY, I FORGOT THIS PART.
PIPPIRA
$1
ZILLION

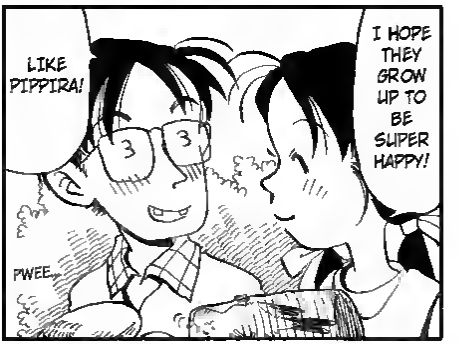

HOW TO MAKE DELICIOUS FOOD FOR YOUR BIRDS

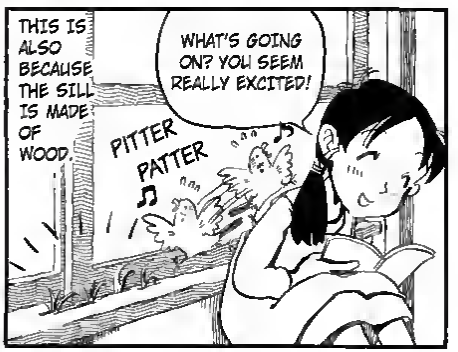

ARE YOU RAISING THEM AT THE STORE?
YEAH... THEY HAVE TO BE FED EVERY THREE HOURS.

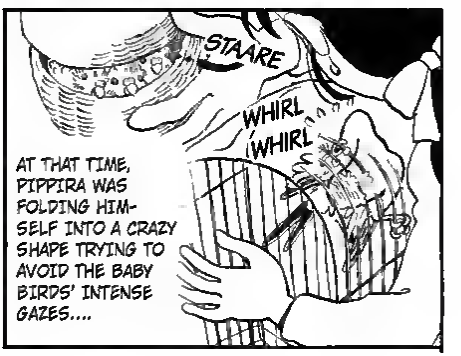

IF YOU HANG OUT THERE, YOU'RE GONNA GET RAINED ON.
FSHHH
BECAUSE THE WINDOW SILL IS MADE OF WOOD.

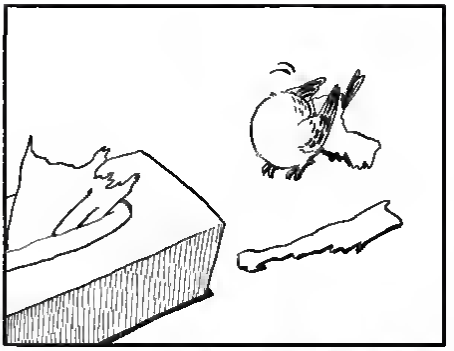

I'M THE ONLY ONE HERE TO TAKE CARE OF THEM.
PWEE PWEE
TSUNA.. ...

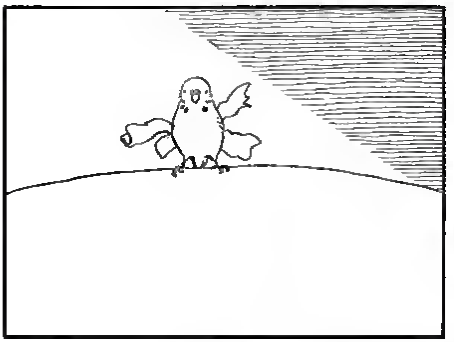

SHINE
SHINE
SHINE

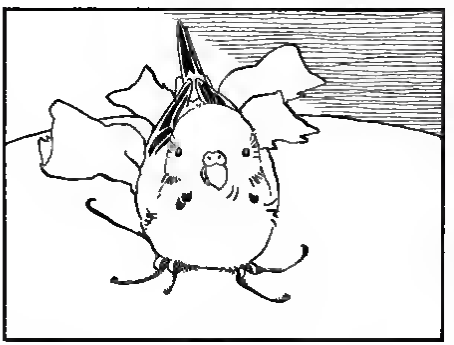

I HOPE THEY GROW UP TO BE SUPER HAPPY!
LIKE PIPPIRA!
PWEE

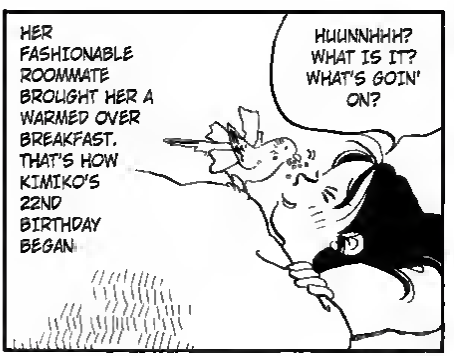

WHAT'S GOING ON? YOU SEEM REALLY EXCITED!
PITTER PATTER
THIS IS ALSO BECAUSE THE SILL IS MADE OF WOOD.


STAARE
WHIRL WHIRL
AT THAT TIME, PIPPIRA WAS FOLDING HIMSELF INTO A CRAZY SHAPE TRYING TO AVOID THE BABY BIRDS' INTENSE GAZES....

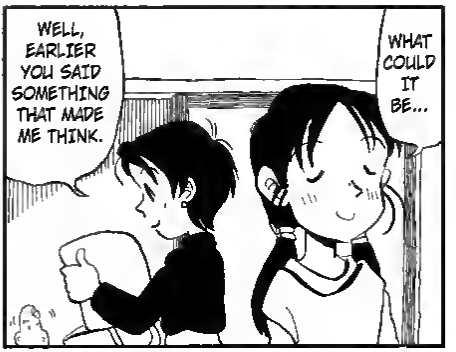


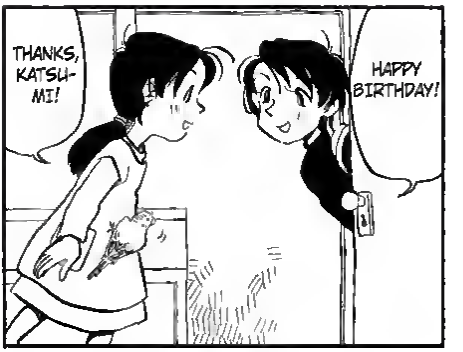


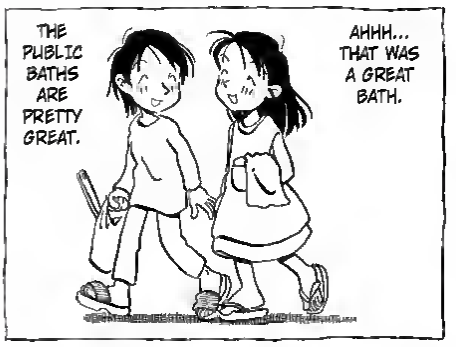



HUUNNHHH? WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S GOIN' ON?
HER FASHIONABLE ROOMMATE BROUGHT HER A WARMED OVER BREAKFAST. THAT'S HOW KIMIKO'S 22ND BIRTHDAY BEGAN.

PART 37

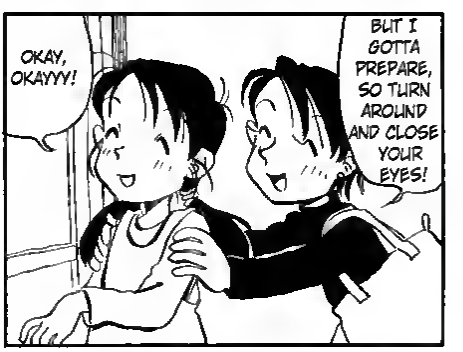

WELL, EARLIER YOU SAID SOMETHING THAT MADE ME THINK.
WHAT COULD IT BE...

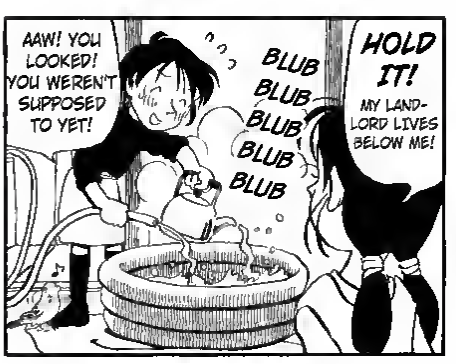

THANKS, KATSU-MI!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

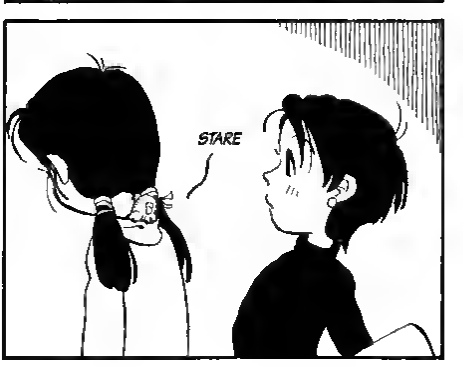

THE PUBLIC BATHS ARE PRETTY GREAT.
AHHH... THAT WAS A GREAT BATH.

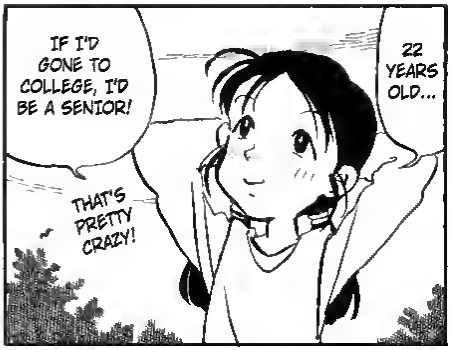
YOU DO?
I HAVE A PRESENT FOR YOU, KIMI!!

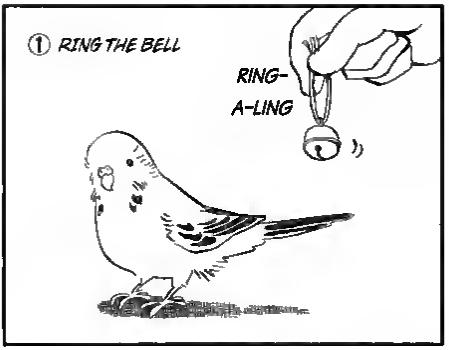
IF I HAD A BATHTUB IN MY OWN HOUSE, I COULD TAKE BATHS WITH PIPPIRA!

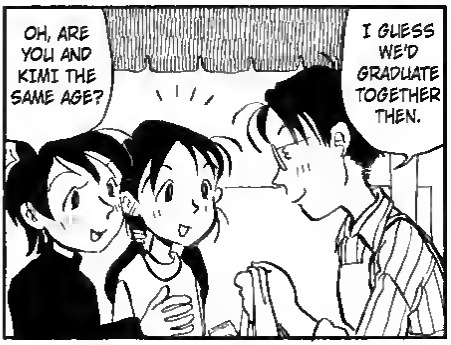

OKAY, OKAYYY!
BUT I GOTTA PREPARE, SO TURN AROUND AND CLOSE YOUR EYES!

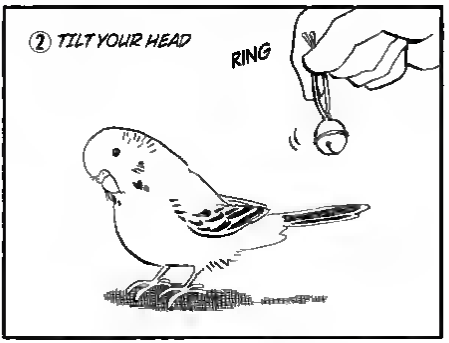

AAW! YOU LOOKED! YOU WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO YET!
BLUB BLUB BLUB BLUB BLUB
HOLD IT!
MY LAND-LORD LIVES BELOW ME!

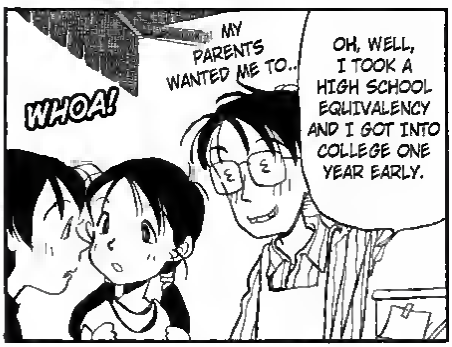

STARE

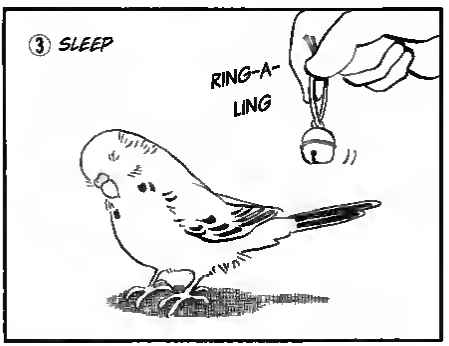

IF I'D GONE TO COLLEGE, I'D BE A SENIOR!
22 YEARS OLD...
THAT'S PRETTY CRAZY!

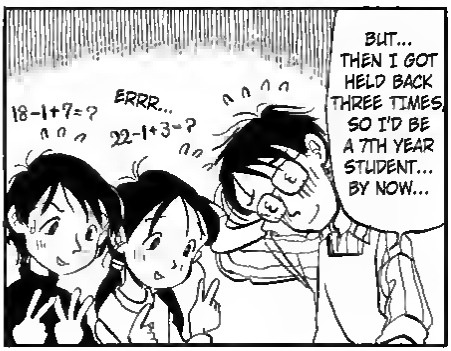

① RING THE BELL
RING-A-LING

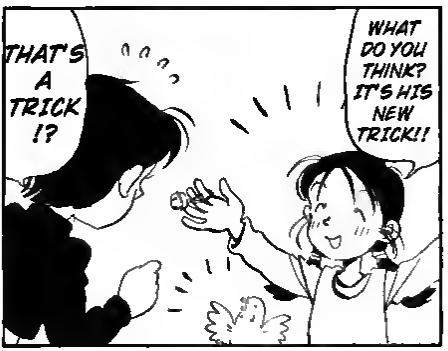

OH, ARE YOU AND KIMI THE SAME AGE?
I GUESS WE'D GRADUATE TOGETHER THEN.

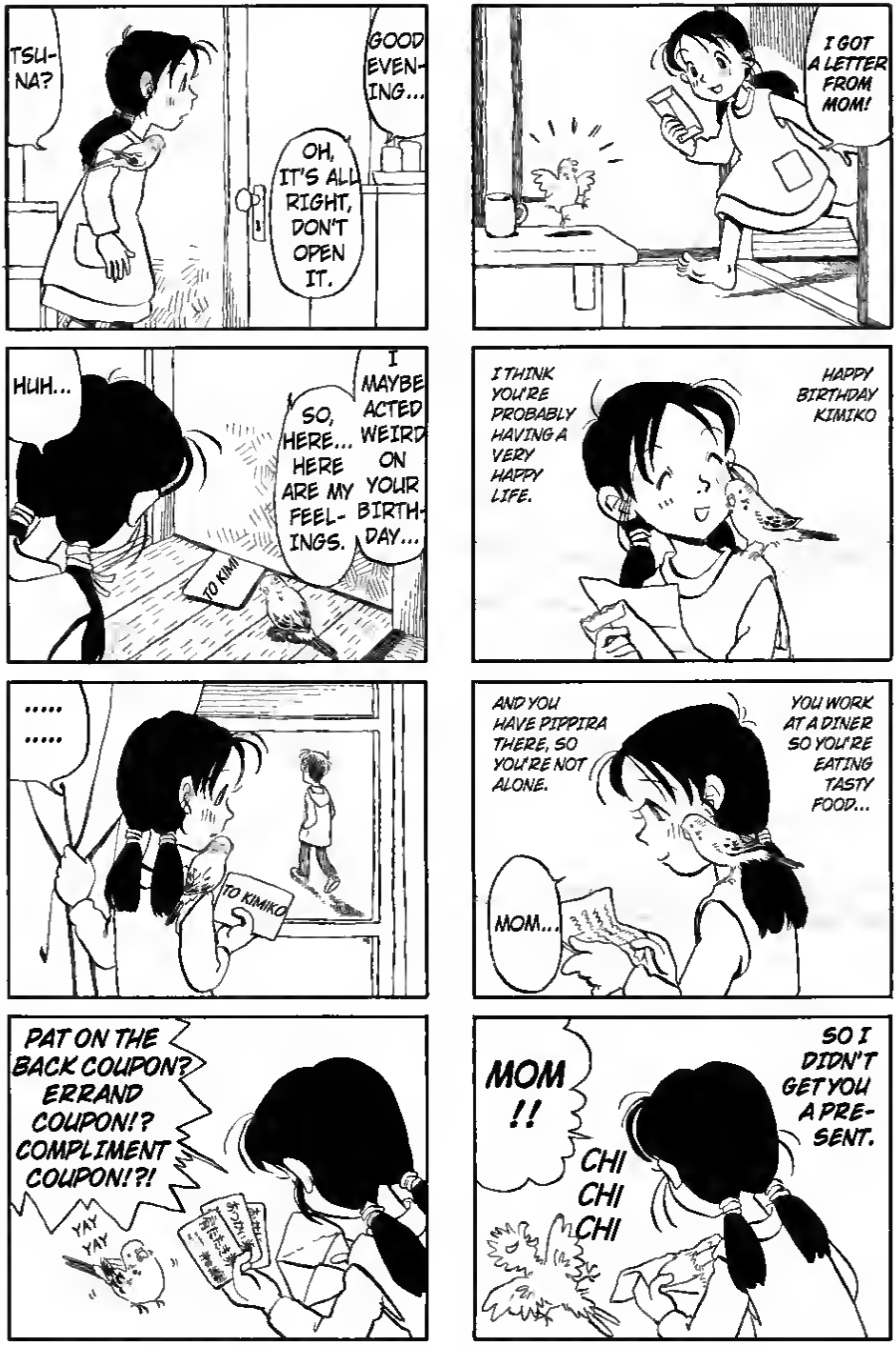

② TILT YOUR HEAD
RING

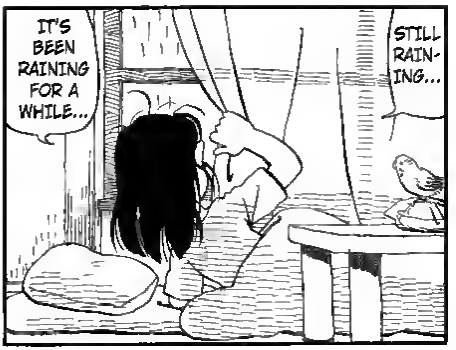

WHOA!
MY PARENTS WANTED ME TO..
OH, WELL, I TOOK A HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY AND I GOT INTO COLLEGE ONE YEAR EARLY.

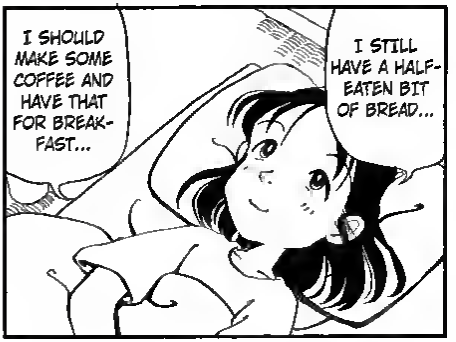

③ SLEEP
RING-A-LING

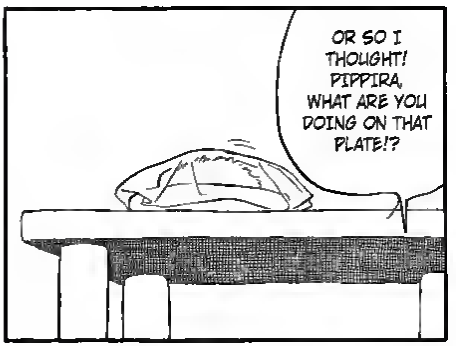

18-1+7=?
ERRR...
22-1+3=?
BUT... THEN I GOT HELD BACK THREE TIMES, SO I'D BE A 7TH YEAR STUDENT... BY NOW...

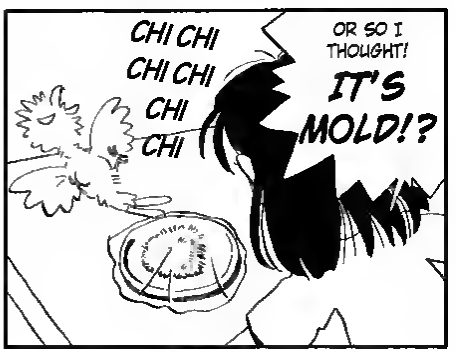

THAT'S A TRICK !?
WHAT DO YOU THINK? IT'S HIS NEW TRICK!!


TSU-NA?
GOOD EVEN-ING...
OH, IT'S ALL RIGHT, DON'T OPEN IT.
I GOT A LETTER FROM MOM!
HUH...
SO, HERE... HERE ARE MY FEEL-INGS.
I MAYBE ACTED WEIRD ON YOUR BIRTH-DAY...
TO KIMI
I THINK YOU'RE PROBABLY HAVING A VERY HAPPY LIFE.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY KIMIKO
.....
.....
TO KIMIKO
AND YOU HAVE PIPPIRA THERE, SO YOU'RE NOT ALONE.
YOU WORK AT A DINER SO YOU'RE EATING TASTY FOOD...
MOM...
PAT ON THE BACK COUPON? ERRAND COUPON!? COMPLIMENT COUPON!?!
YAY YAY
MOM !!
CHI CHI CHI
SO I DIDN'T GET YOU A PRE-SENT.

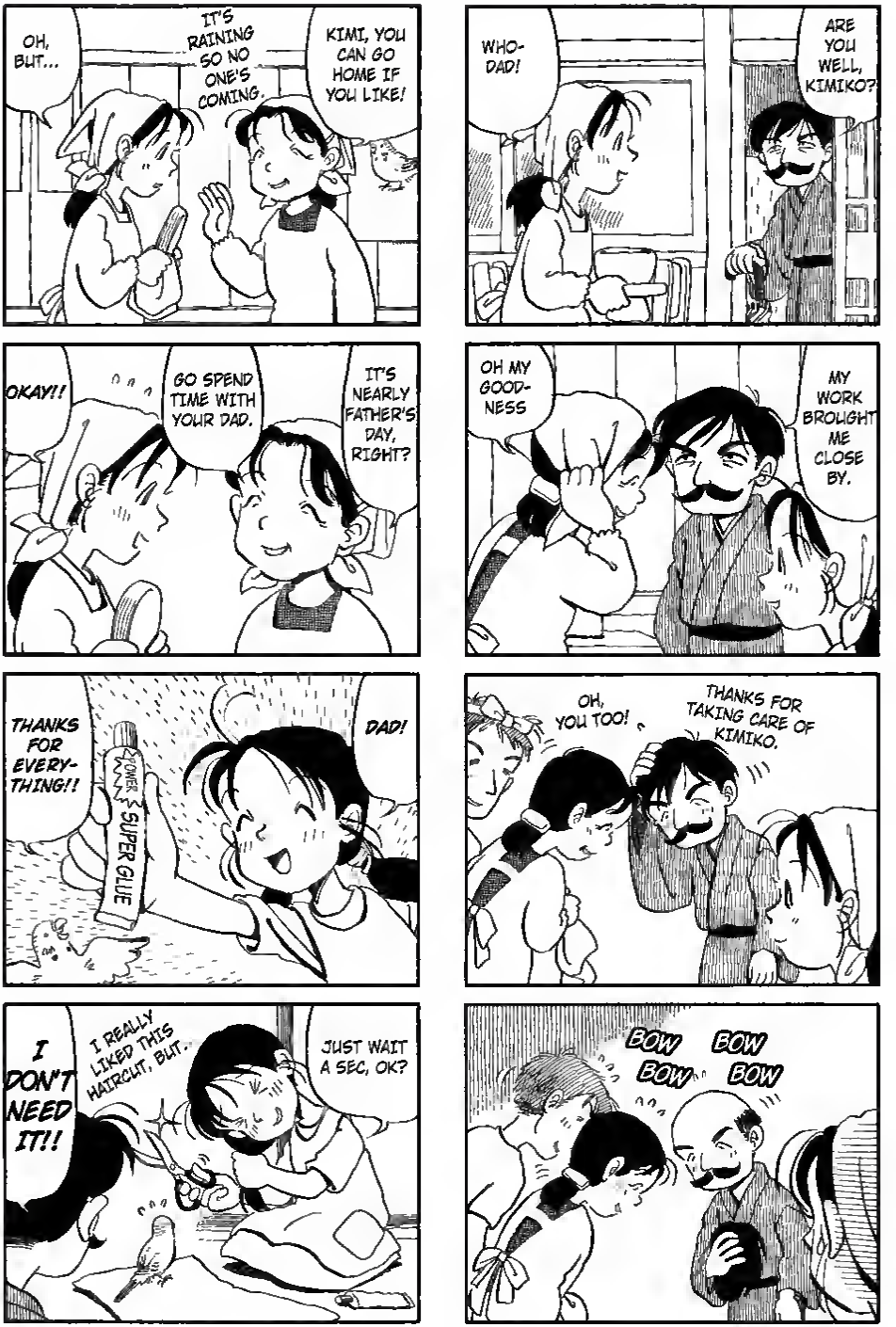

IT'S BEEN RAINING FOR A WHILE...
STILL RAIN-ING...

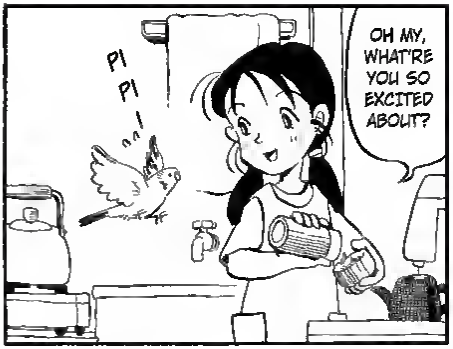

I SHOULD MAKE SOME COFFEE AND HAVE THAT FOR BREAK-FAST...
I STILL HAVE A HALF-EATEN BIT OF BREAD...

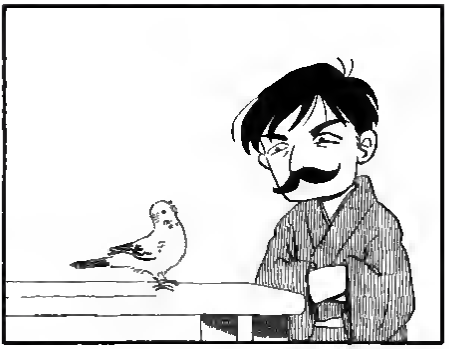

OR SO I THOUGHT! PIPPIRA, WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON THAT PLATE!?

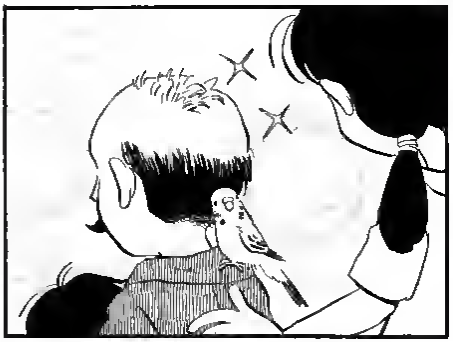

CHI CHI CHI CHI CHI CHI
OR SO I THOUGHT!
IT'S MOLD!?

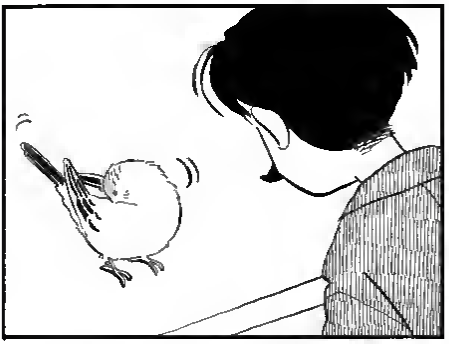
PART 38

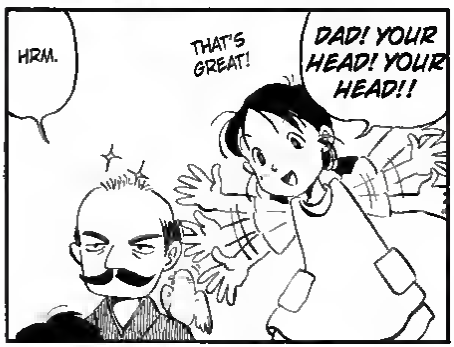

OH, BUT...
IT'S RAINING SO NO ONE'S COMING.
KIMI, YOU CAN GO HOME IF YOU LIKE!
WHO- DAD!
ARE YOU WELL, KIMIKO?
OKAY!!
GO SPEND TIME WITH YOUR DAD.
IT'S NEARLY FATHER'S DAY, RIGHT?
OH MY GOOD- NESS
MY WORK BROUGHT ME CLOSE BY.
THANKS FOR EVERY- THING!!
SUPER GLUE
DAD!
OH, YOU TOO!
THANKS FOR TAKING CARE OF KIMIKO.
I DON'T NEED IT!!
I REALLY LIKED THIS HAIRCUT, BUT...
JUST WAIT A SEC, OK?
BOW BOW BOW BOW

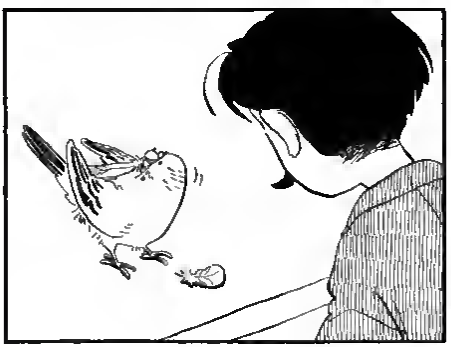

PI PI !
OH MY, WHAT'RE YOU SO EXCITED ABOUT?



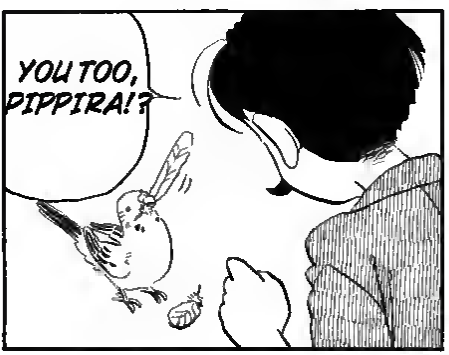


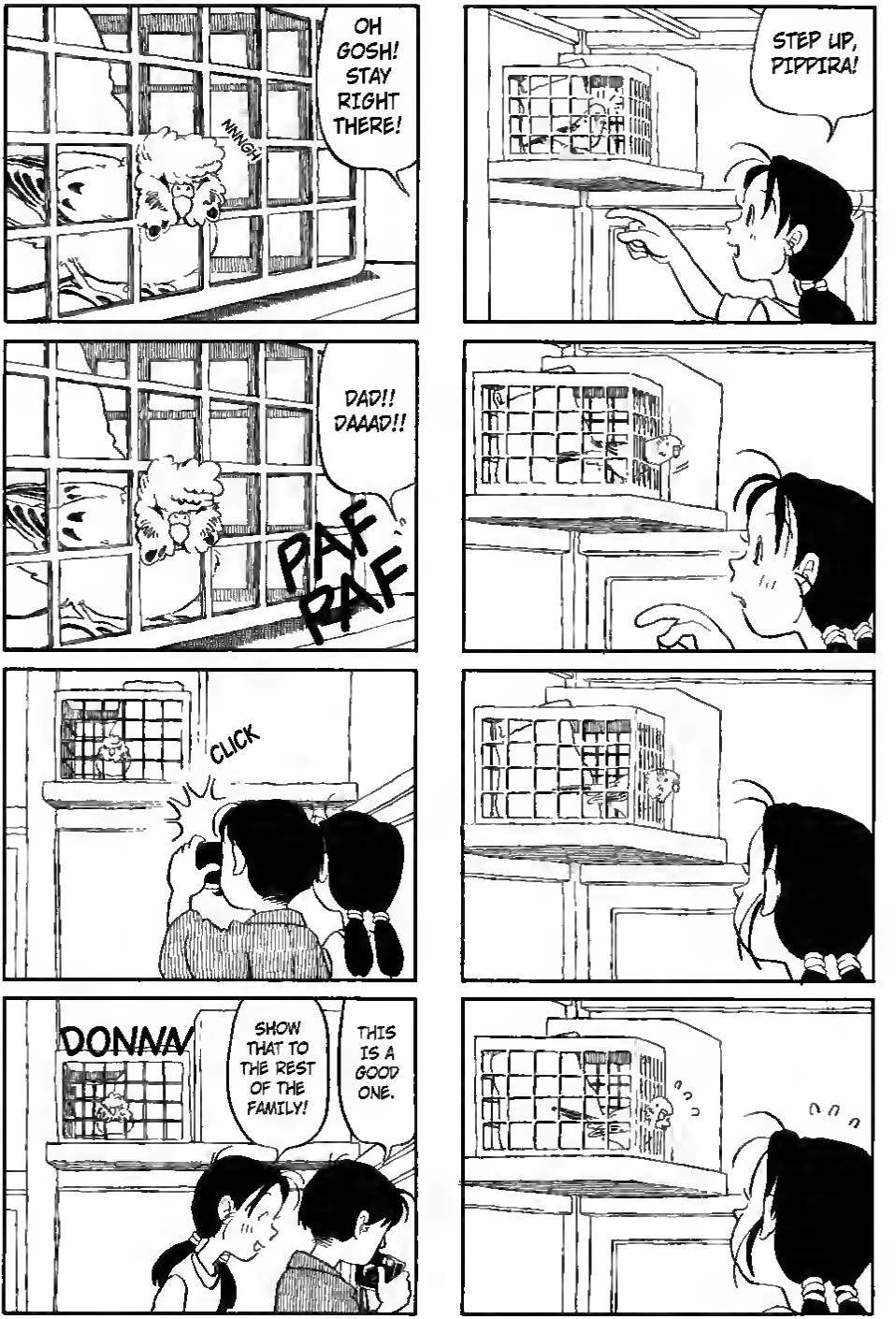


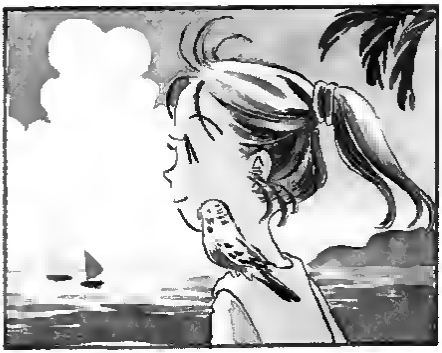

HRM.
THAT'S GREAT!
DAD! YOUR HEAD! YOUR HEAD!!

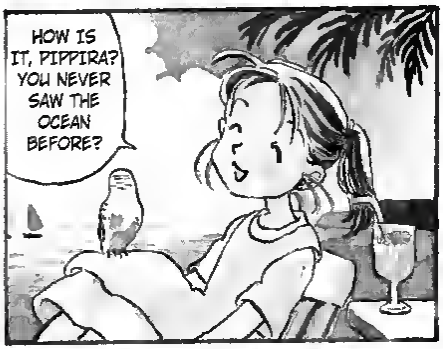


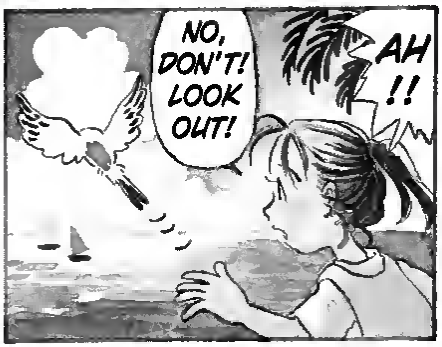
MOLD !!!
NAH, I'VE JUST BEEN WEARING THE WIG TOO LONG
CHI CHI CHI

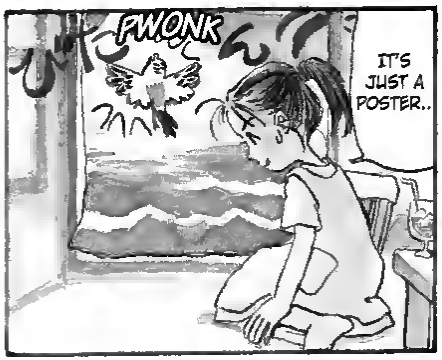

YOU TOO, PIPPIRA!?


OH GOSH! STAY RIGHT THERE!
NNNGH!
STEP UP, PIPPIRA!
DAD!! DAAAD!!
PAF PAF
CLICK
DONNA
SHOW THAT TO THE REST OF THE FAMILY!
THIS IS A GOOD ONE.

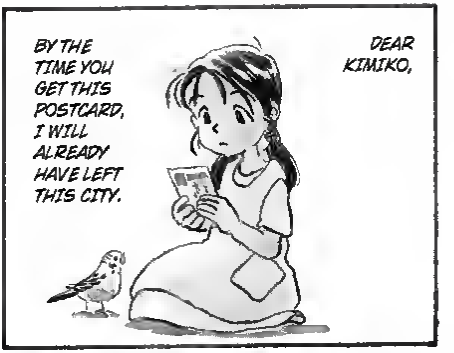


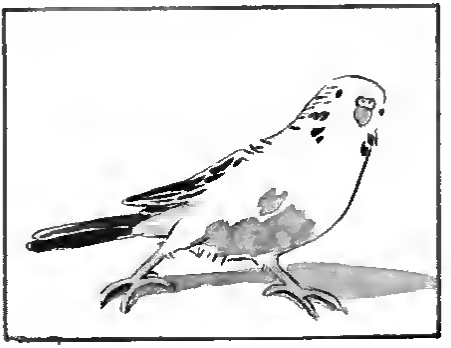

HOW IS IT, PIPPIRA? YOU NEVER SAW THE OCEAN BEFORE?

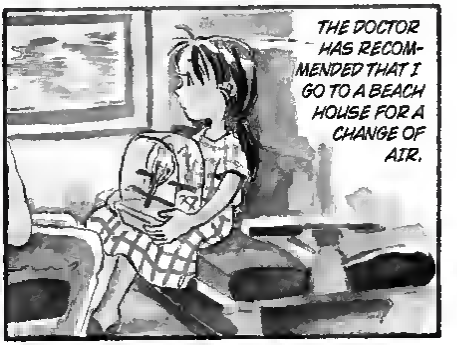

NO, DON'T! LOOK OUT!
AH !!

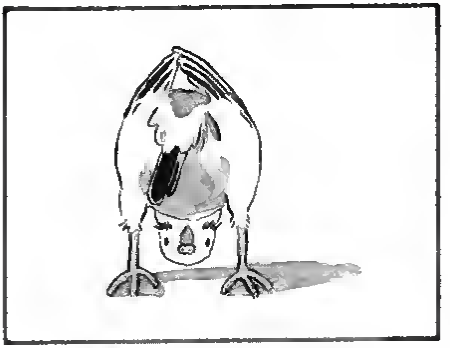

PWONK
IT'S JUST A POSTER..

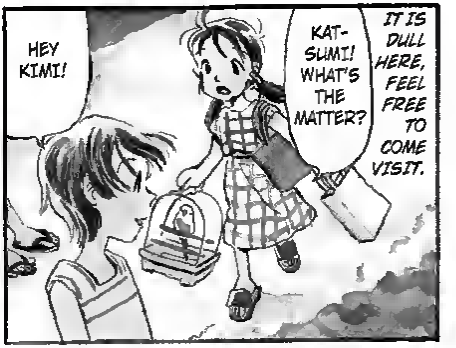
PART 39

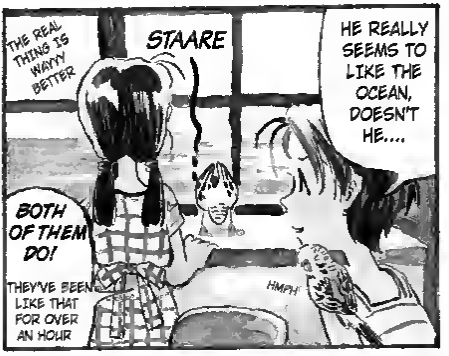

DEAR KIMIKO,
BY THE TIME YOU GET THIS POSTCARD, I WILL ALREADY HAVE LEFT THIS CITY.

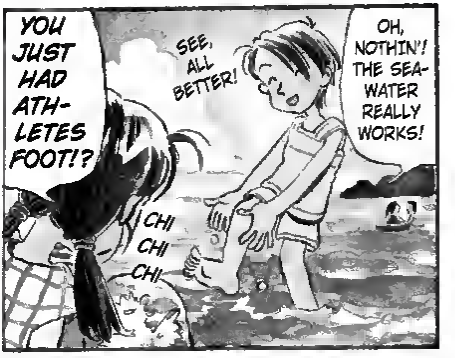


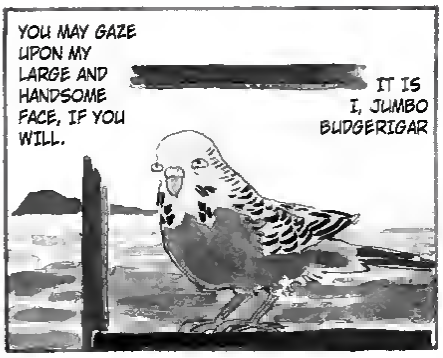

THE DOCTOR HAS RECOMMENDED THAT I GO TO A BEACH HOUSE FOR A CHANGE OF AIR.

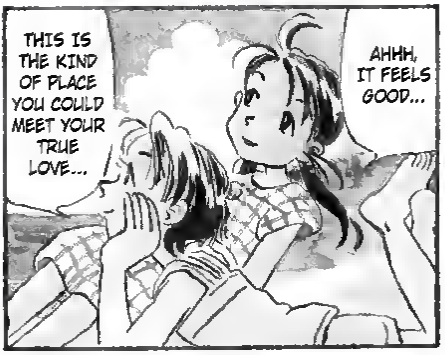


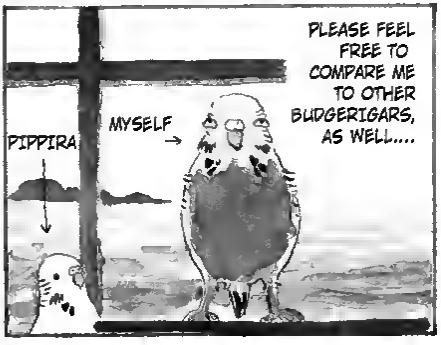

HEY KIMI!
KAT-SUMI! WHAT'S THE MATTER?
IT IS DULL HERE, FEEL FREE TO COME VISIT.

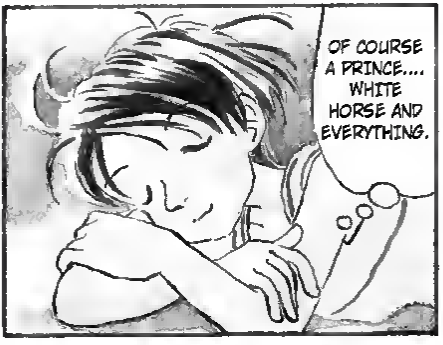

THE REAL THING IS WAYYY BETTER
STAARE
HE REALLY SEEMS TO LIKE THE OCEAN, DOESN'T HE....
BOTH OF THEM DO!
THEY'VE BEEN LIKE THAT FOR OVER AN HOUR
HMPH

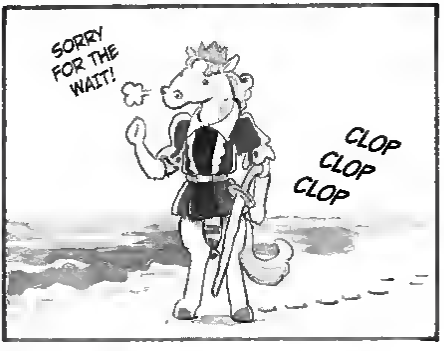

YOU JUST HAD ATH-LETES FOOT!?
SEE, ALL BETTER!
OH, NOTHIN'! THE SEA-WATER REALLY WORKS!
CHI CHI CHI


YOU MAY GAZE UPON MY LARGE AND HANDSOME FACE, IF YOU WILL.
IT IS I, JUMBO BUDGERIGAR

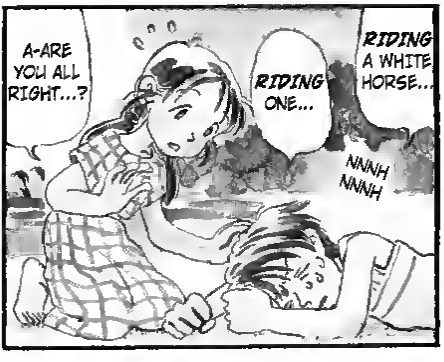

THIS IS THE KIND OF PLACE YOU COULD MEET YOUR TRUE LOVE...
AHHH, IT FEELS GOOD...


PIPPIRA
MYSELF
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO COMPARE ME TO OTHER BUDGERIGARS, AS WELL....


OF COURSE A PRINCE.... WHITE HORSE AND EVERYTHING.

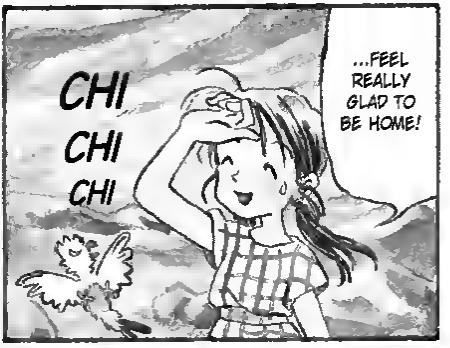

SORRY FOR THE WAIT!
CLOP CLOP CLOP

PLAYING ON DAD'S POTTERY WHEEL AGAIN...?
ENRAPTURED

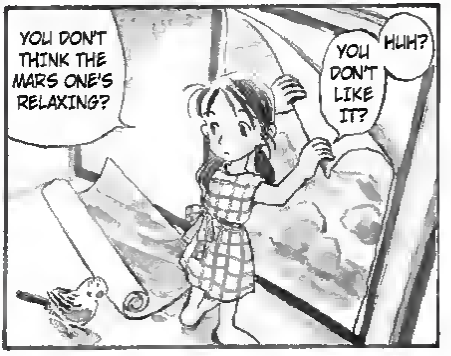

A-ARE YOU ALL RIGHT...?
RIDING ONE...
RIDING A WHITE HORSE...
NNNH NNNH

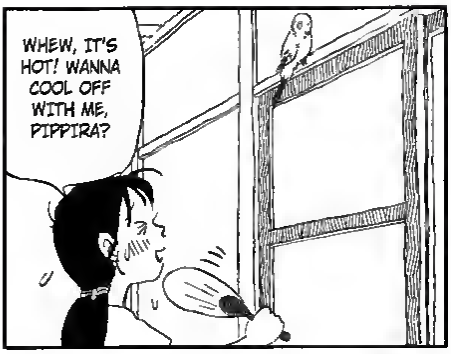
AH, THAT WAS FUN...

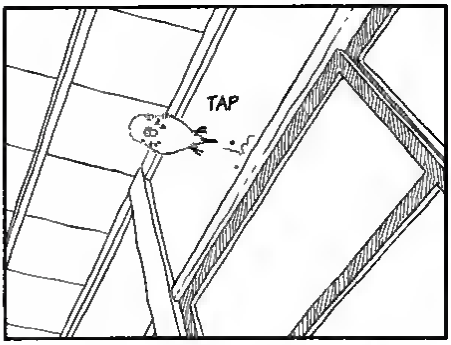
BUT HAVING ALL THAT FUN AND THEN COMING BACK MAKES ME....

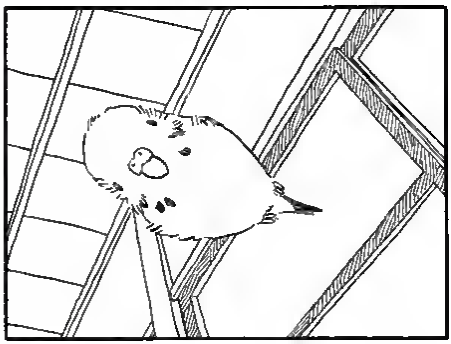

CHI
CHI
CHI
...FEEL REALLY GLAD TO BE HOME!

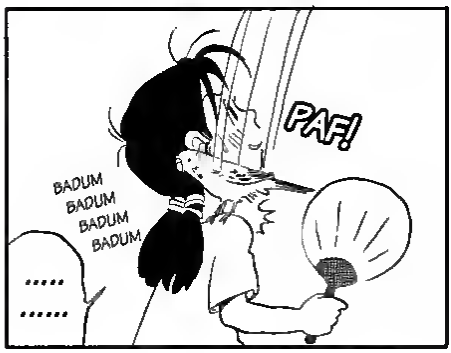
W-WHAT!
SITS UP!
BWAA


YOU DON'T THINK THE MARS ONE'S RELAXING?
HUH?
YOU DON'T LIKE IT?

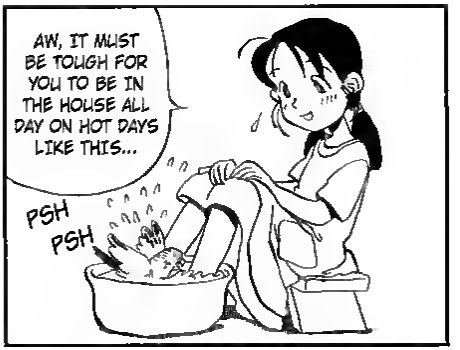

WHEW, IT'S HOT! WANNA COOL OFF WITH ME, PIPPIRA?

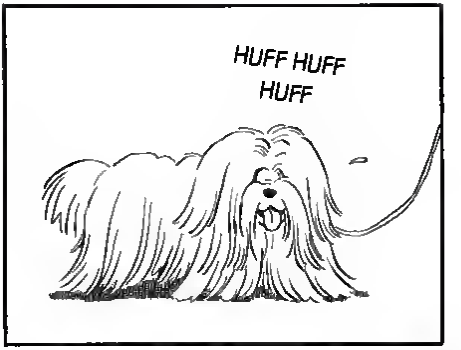

TAP

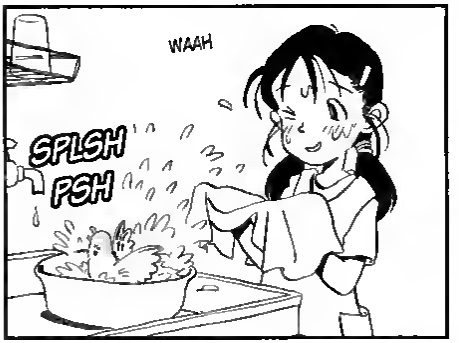


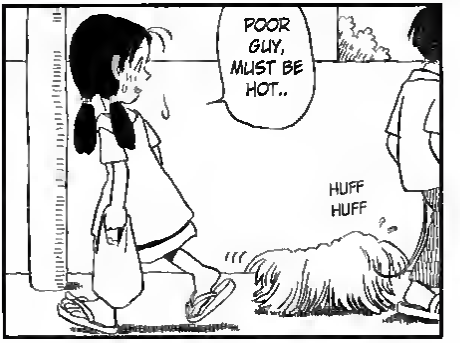

PAF!
BADUM
BADUM
BADUM
BADUM
.....
.....

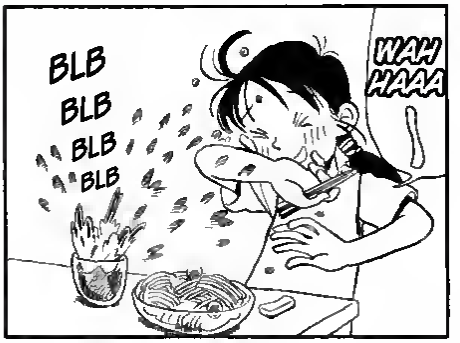
PART 40

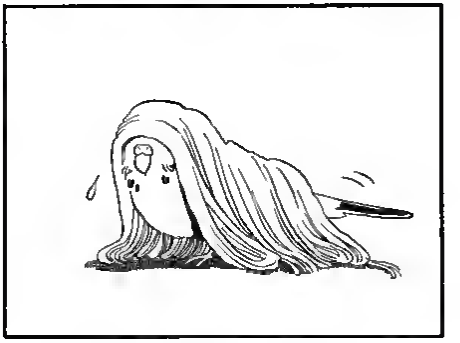

AW, IT MUST BE TOUGH FOR YOU TO BE IN THE HOUSE ALL DAY ON HOT DAYS LIKE THIS...
PSH
PSH

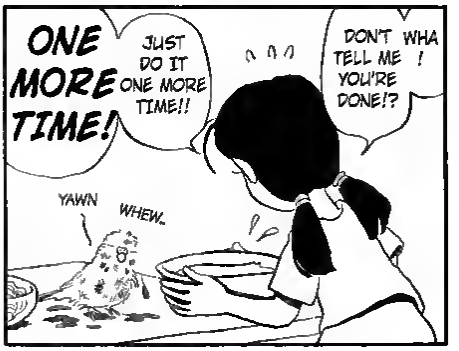

HUFF HUFF
HUFF

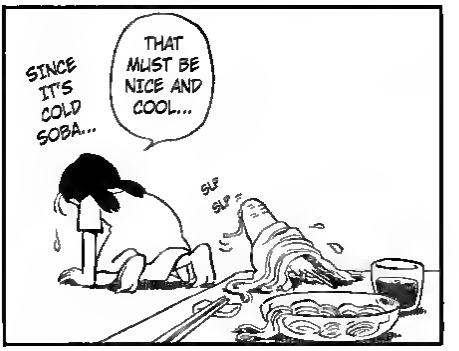

WAAH
SPLSH
PSH

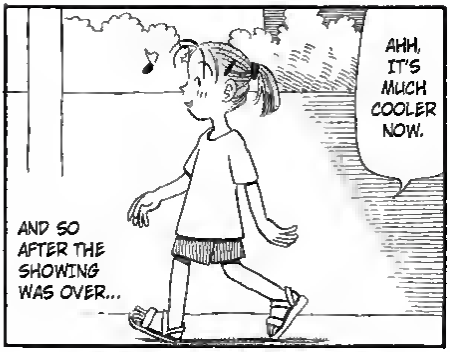

POOR GUY, MUST BE HOT..
HUFF
HUFF

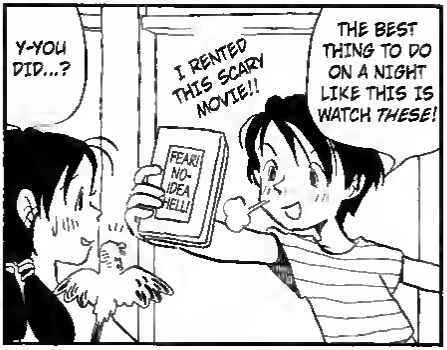

BLB
BLB
BLB
BLB
WAH HAAA

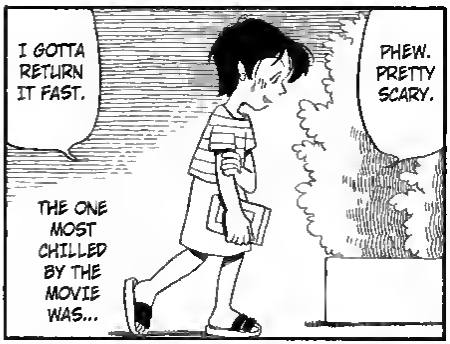


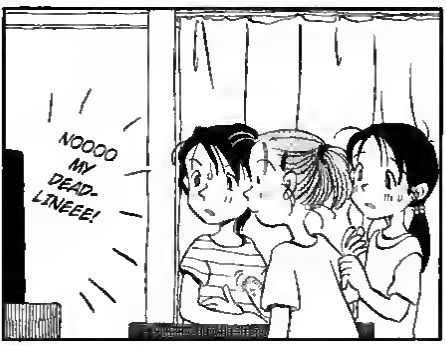

ONE MORE TIME!
JUST DO IT ONE MORE TIME!!
DON'T WHA TELL ME ! YOU'RE DONE!?
YAWN
WHEW..

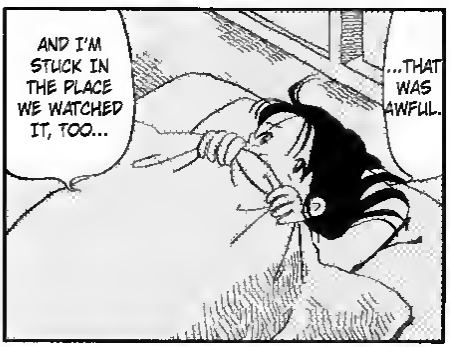

SINCE IT'S COLD SOBA...
THAT MUST BE NICE AND COOL...
SLP
SLP

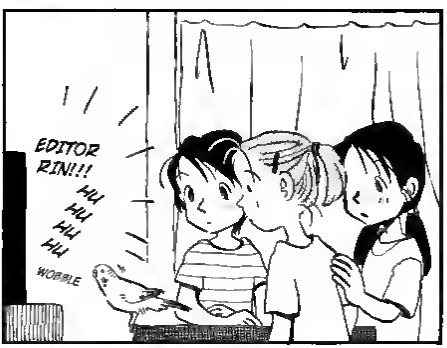

AHH, IT'S MUCH COOLER NOW.
AND SO AFTER THE SHOWING WAS OVER...

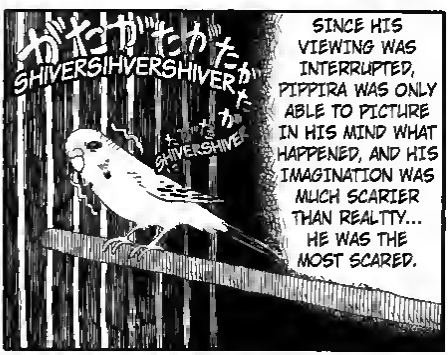

Y-YOU DID...?
I RENTED THIS SCARY MOVIE!!
THE BEST THING TO DO ON A NIGHT LIKE THIS IS WATCH THESE!
FEAR! NO. IDEA. HELL!

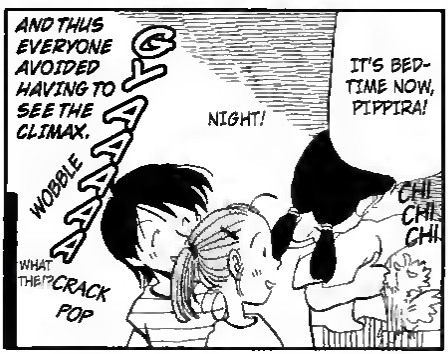

I GOTTA RETURN IT FAST.
PHEW. PRETTY SCARY.
THE ONE MOST CHILLED BY THE MOVIE WAS...

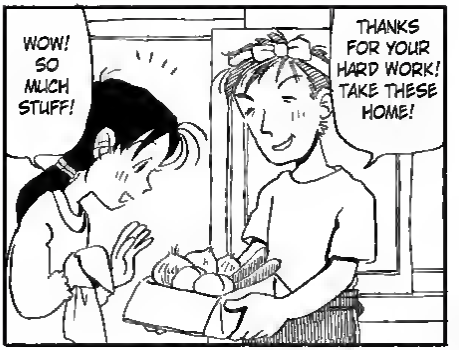

NOOOO MY DEAD-LINEEE!

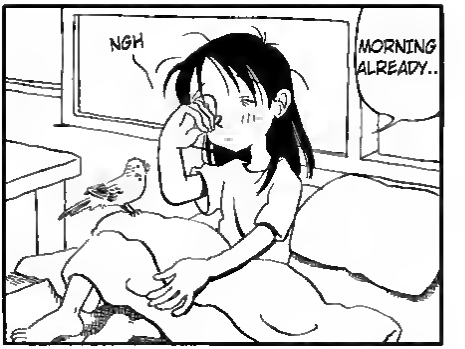

AND I'M STUCK IN THE PLACE WE WATCHED IT, TOO...
...THAT WAS AWFUL.

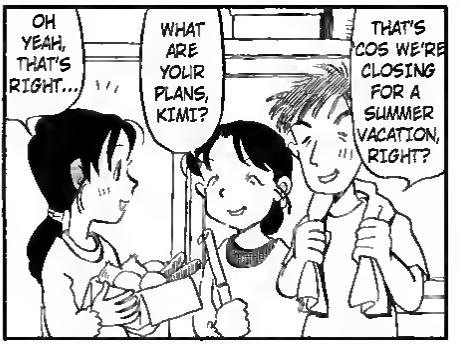

EDITOR RIN!!!
HU HU HU HU HU
WOBBLE

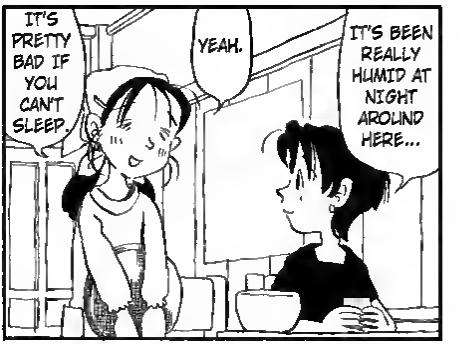

がたがたがた
SHIVERSHIVERSHIVER
SHIVERSHIVER
SINCE HIS VIEWING WAS INTERRUPTED, PIPPIRA WAS ONLY ABLE TO PICTURE IN HIS MIND WHAT HAPPENED, AND HIS IMAGINATION WAS MUCH SCARIER THAN REALTTY... HE WAS THE MOST SCARED.


AND THUS EVERYONE AVOIDED HAVING TO SEE THE CLIMAX.
GYAAAA
WOBBLE
WHAT THE?
CRACK
POP
NIGHT!
IT'S BED-TIME NOW, PIPPIRA!
CHI CHI CHI

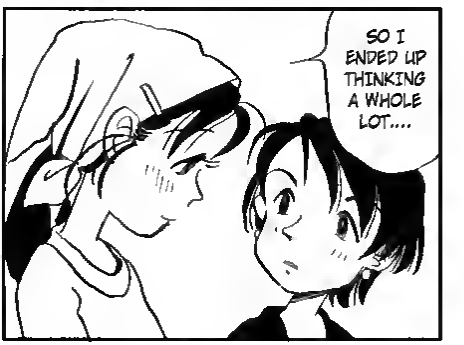

WOW! SO MUCH STUFF!
THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK! TAKE THESE HOME!

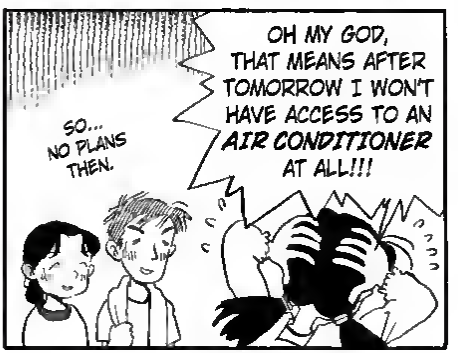

NGH
MORNING ALREADY..

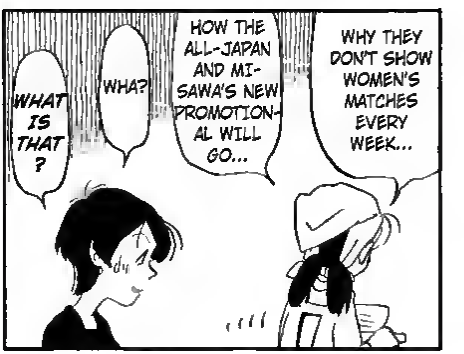

OH YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT...
WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS, KIMI?
THAT'S COS WE'RE CLOSING FOR A SUMMER VACATION, RIGHT?

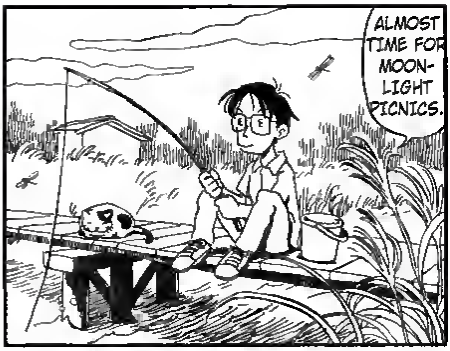

IT'S PRETTY BAD IF YOU CAN'T SLEEP
YEAH.
IT'S BEEN REALLY HUMID AT NIGHT AROUND HERE...

ガン DUN DUNNNN

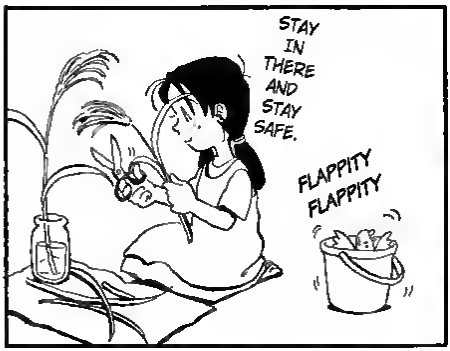

SO I ENDED UP THINKING A WHOLE LOT....


SO... NO PLANS THEN.
OH MY GOD, THAT MEANS AFTER TOMORROW I WON'T HAVE ACCESS TO AN AIR CONDITIONER AT ALL!!!

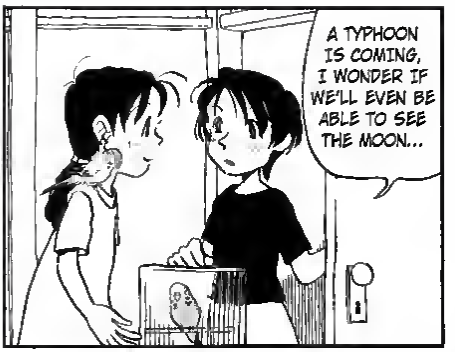

WHAT IS THAT ?
WHA?
HOW THE ALL-JAPAN AND MI-SAWA'S NEW PROMOTION-AL WILL GO...
WHY THEY DON'T SHOW WOMEN'S MATCHES EVERY WEEK...

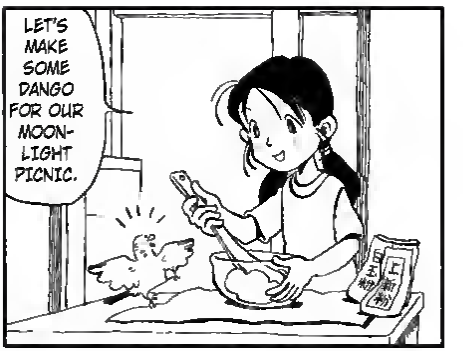

ALMOST TIME FOR MOON-LIGHT PICNICS.

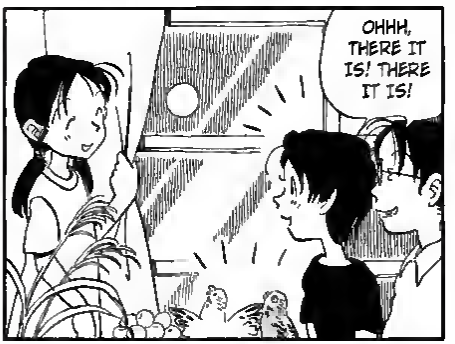
OH BOY!
GOT YOU THIS ON MY FISHING TRIP.

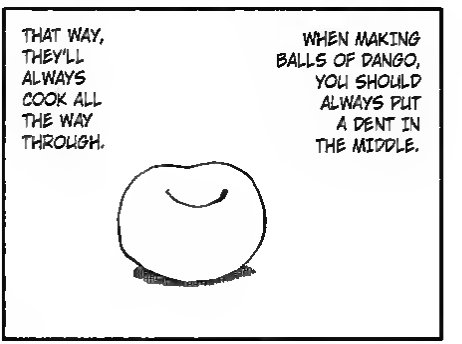

STAY IN THERE AND STAY SAFE.
FLAPPITY FLAPPITY

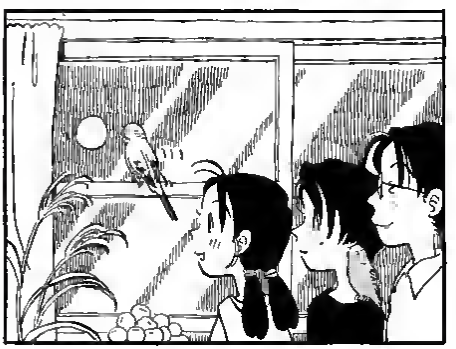
PART 41

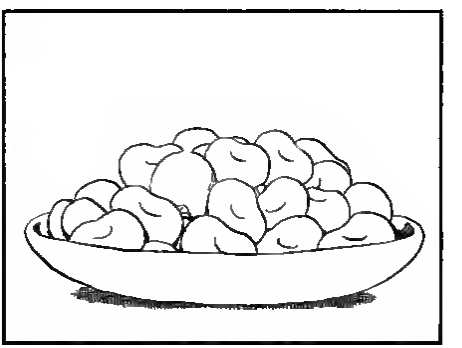

A TYPHOON IS COMING, I WONDER IF WE'LL EVEN BE ABLE TO SEE THE MOON...

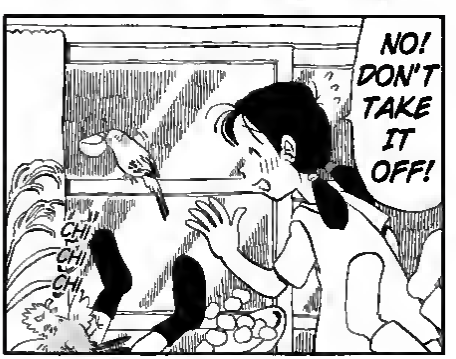

LET'S MAKE SOME DANGO FOR OUR MOON-LIGHT PICNIC.

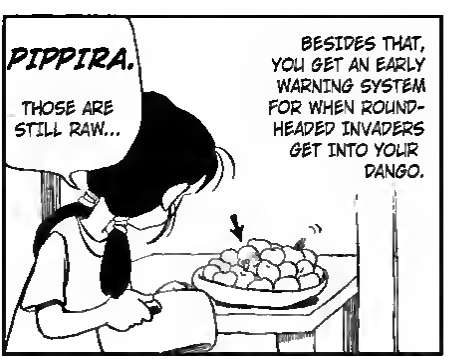

OHHH, THERE IT IS! THERE IT IS!


THAT WAY, THEY'LL ALWAYS COOK ALL THE WAY THROUGH.
WHEN MAKING BALLS OF DANGO, YOU SHOULD ALWAYS PUT A DENT IN THE MIDDLE.



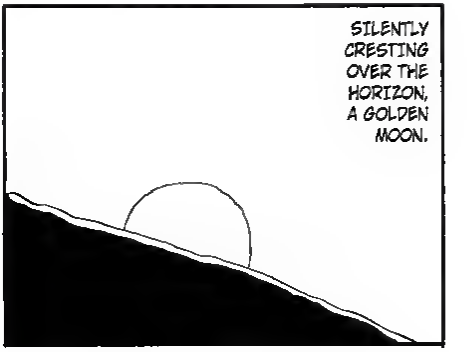



NO! DON'T TAKE IT OFF!
CHI CHI CHI CHI

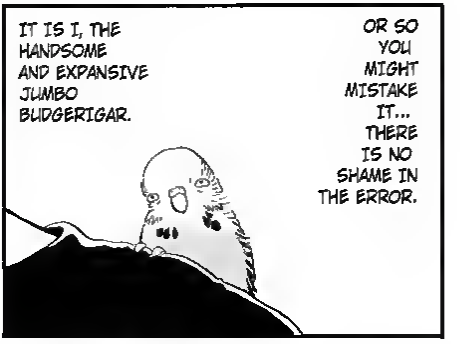

PIPPIRA.
THOSE ARE STILL RAW...
BESIDES THAT, YOU GET AN EARLY WARNING SYSTEM FOR WHEN ROUND-HEADED INVADERS GET INTO YOUR DANGO.

NAH, NOT REALLY.
WOW, HE'S REALLY TAKEN TO YOU, TSUNA.
PIPPI-RAAAA!
SEE...
GALLOP
....
....
GALLOP
PIPPI-RAAAA!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET DOWN ABOUT IT, THOUGH....
GALLOP

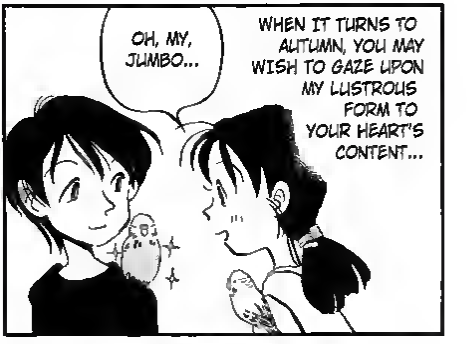
HUH!!
I THINK TSUNA REALLY LIKES YOU, KIMIKO.

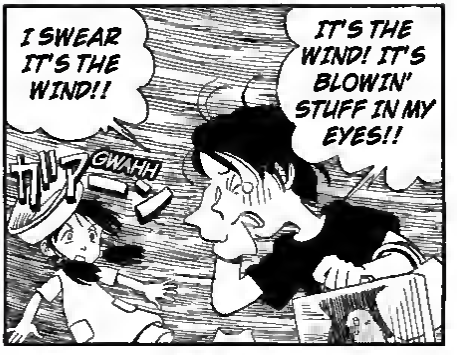

SILENTLY CRESTING OVER THE HORIZON, A GOLDEN MOON.

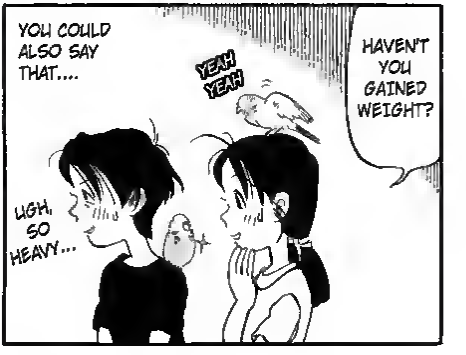
ARE YOU SURE...?
NAH, NO WAY!
N-
YEAH...

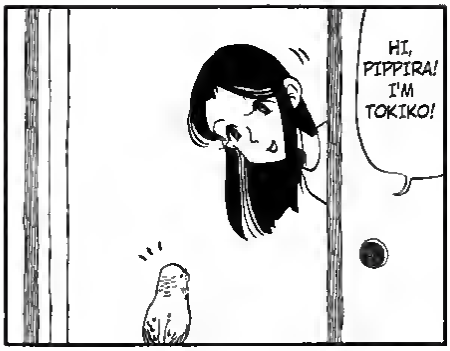

IT IS I, THE HANDSOME AND EXPANSIVE JUMBO BUDGERIGAR.
OR SO YOU MIGHT MISTAKE IT... THERE IS NO SHAME IN THE ERROR.

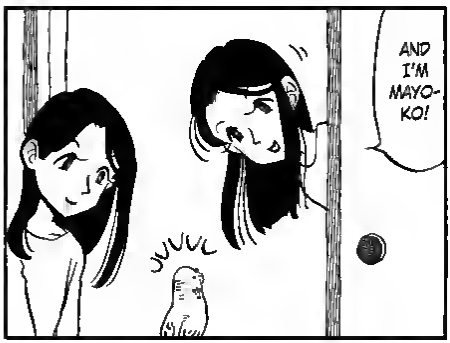
I REALLY ABSOLUTELY THINK SO...

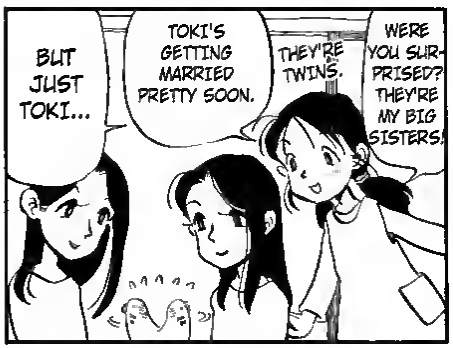

OH, MY, JUMBO...
WHEN IT TURNS TO AUTUMN, YOU MAY WISH TO GAZE UPON MY LUSTROUS FORM TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT...

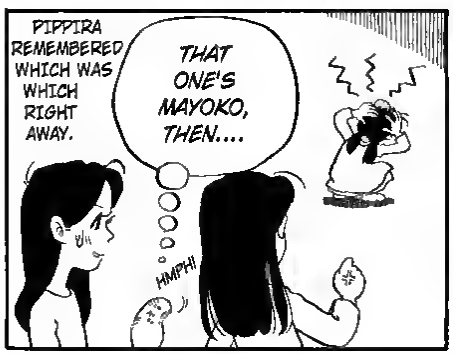

I SWEAR IT'S THE WIND!!
IT'S THE WIND! IT'S BLOWIN' STUFF IN MY EYES!!
GWAHH


YOU COULD ALSO SAY THAT....
YEAH YEAH
HAVEN'T YOU GAINED WEIGHT?
UGH, SO HEAVY...

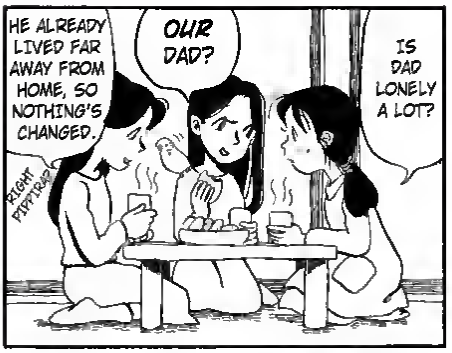

HI, PIPPIRA! I'M TOKIKO!

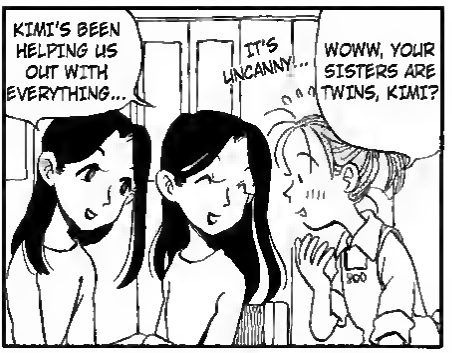

AND I'M MAYO-KO!
JUUUL

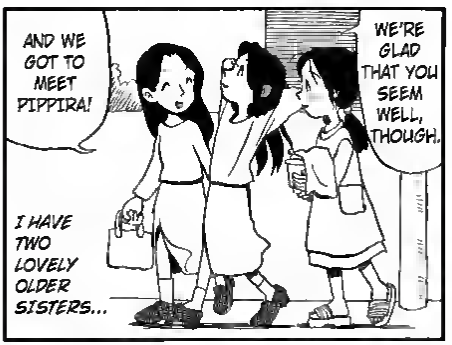

BUT JUST TOKI...
TOKI'S GETTING MARRIED PRETTY SOON.
THEY'RE TWINS.
WERE YOU SUR-PRISED? THEY'RE MY BIG SISTERS!

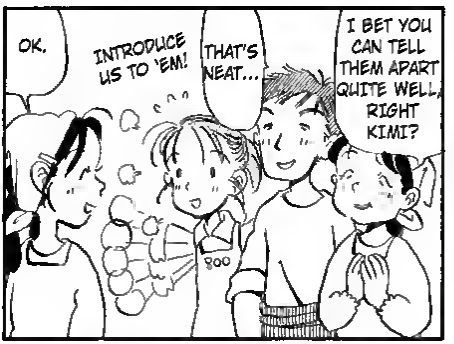

PIPPIRA REMEMBERED WHICH WAS WHICH RIGHT AWAY.
THAT ONE'S MAYOKO, THEN....
HMPH!

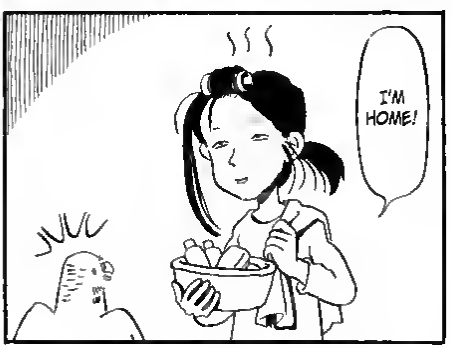
PART 42

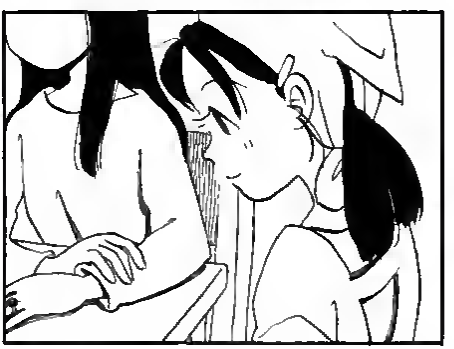

HE ALREADY LIVED FAR AWAY FROM HOME, SO NOTHING'S CHANGED.
OUR DAD?
IS DAD LONELY A LOT?
RIGHT PIPPIRA?

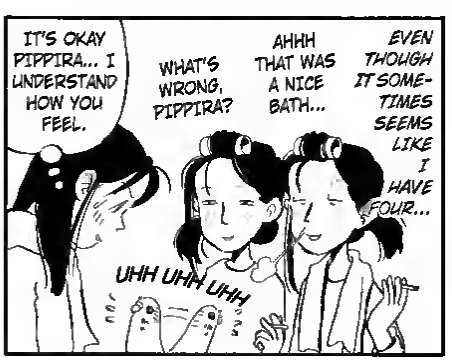

KIMI'S BEEN HELPING US OUT WITH EVERYTHING...
IT'S UNCANNY!...
WOWW, YOUR SISTERS ARE TWINS, KIMI?
SOO


AND WE GOT TO MEET PIPPIRA!
WE'RE GLAD THAT YOU SEEM WELL, THOUGH.
I HAVE TWO LOVELY OLDER SISTERS...


OK.
INTRODUCE US TO 'EM!
THAT'S NEAT...
I BET YOU CAN TELL THEM APART QUITE WELL, RIGHT KIMI?
SOO

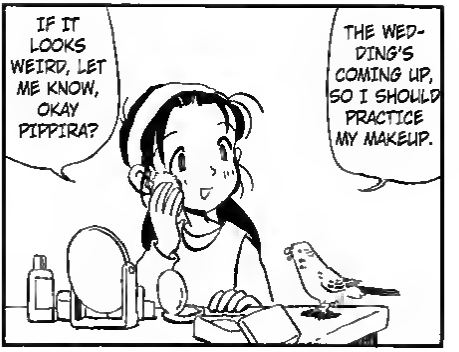

I'M HOME!
JUUU

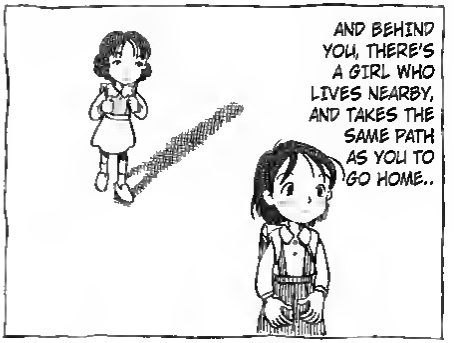


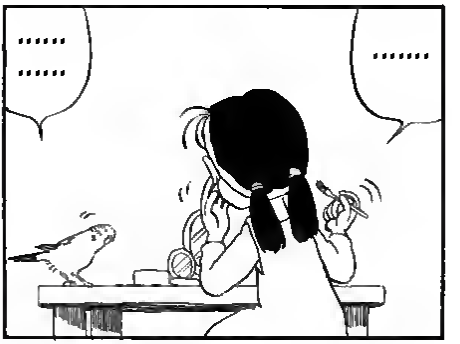

IT'S OKAY PIPPIRA... I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL.
WHAT'S WRONG, PIPPIRA?
AHHH THAT WAS A NICE BATH...
EVEN THOUGH IT SOMETIMES SEEMS LIKE I HAVE FOUR...
UHH UHH UHH

YOU REALLY CAN'T TELL!
THE OTHER ONE'S MAYOKO!
THIS ONE'S TOKIKO.

BYE BYEEE!
BYE KIMI!!
YOU SAY BYE TO YOUR FRIENDS AND GO HOME FROM GRADE SCHOOL.


IF IT LOOKS WEIRD, LET ME KNOW, OKAY PIPPIRA?
THE WEDDING'S COMING UP, SO I SHOULD PRACTICE MY MAKEUP.


AND BEHIND YOU, THERE'S A GIRL WHO LIVES NEARBY, AND TAKES THE SAME PATH AS YOU TO GO HOME..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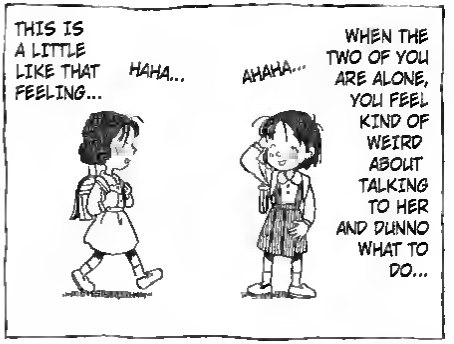
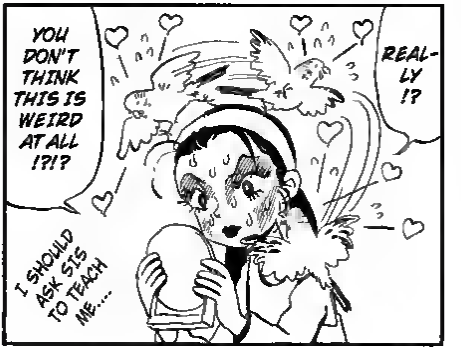
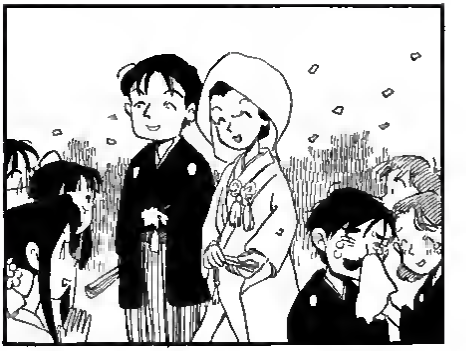
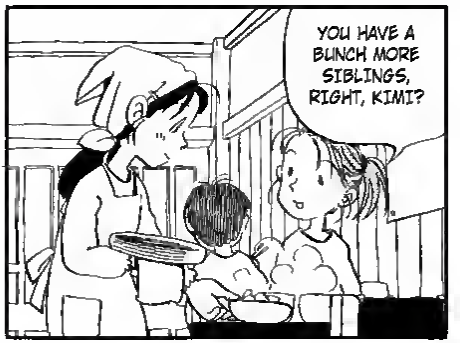

THIS IS A LITTLE LIKE THAT FEELING...
HAHA...
AHAHA...
WHEN THE TWO OF YOU ARE ALONE, YOU FEEL KIND OF WEIRD ABOUT TALKING TO HER AND DUNNO WHAT TO DO...

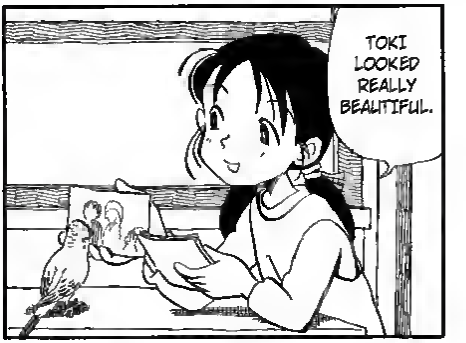
I FEEL THE SAME.
KIMIKO IS WEARING THE FURISODE THAT TOKIKO USED TO WEAR WITH ME!!
RRR
UGH, I DON'T LIKE IT!
ER.. NO.. WAIT.
NOW NOW, MAYO JUST THIS ONCE...
王村家
馬之骨

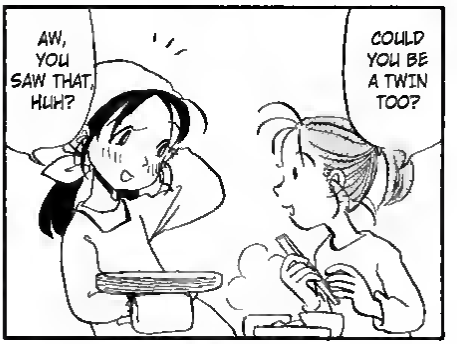

YOU DON'T THINK THIS IS WEIRD AT ALL !?!?
REALLY !?
I SHOULD ASK SIS TO TEACH ME...

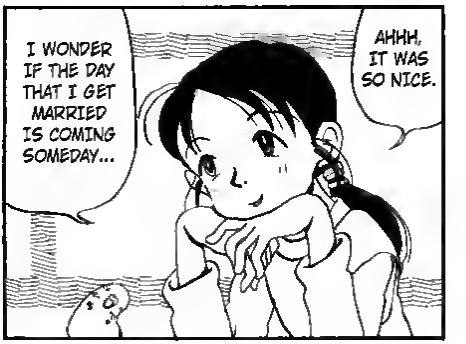
SORRY FOR THE WAIT!



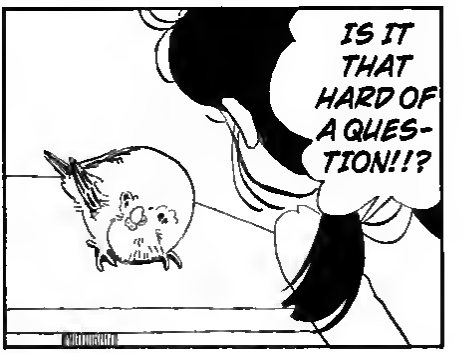

YOU HAVE A BUNCH MORE SIBLINGS, RIGHT, KIMI?

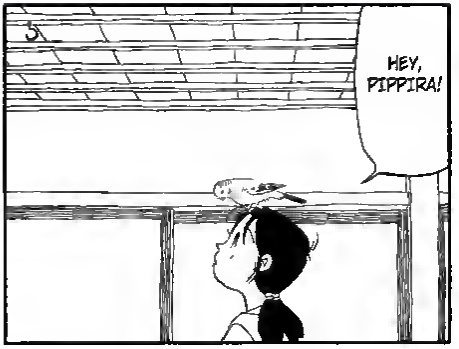

TOKI LOOKED REALLY BEAUTIFUL.

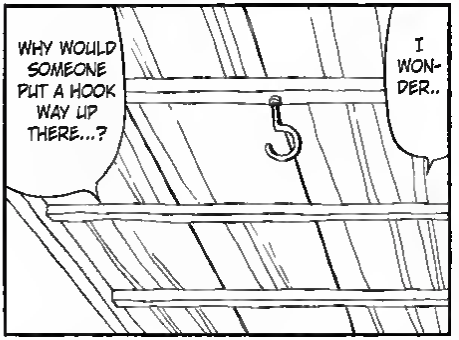

AW, YOU SAW THAT, HUH?
COULD YOU BE A TWIN TOO?

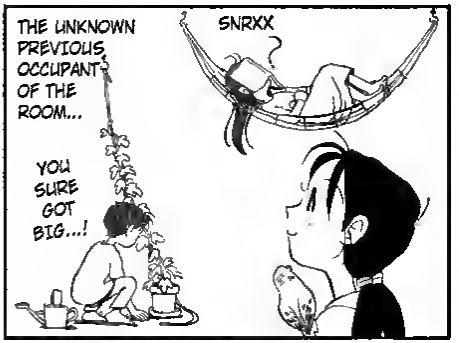

I WONDER IF THE DAY THAT I GET MARRIED IS COMING SOMEDAY...
AHHH, IT WAS SO NICE.

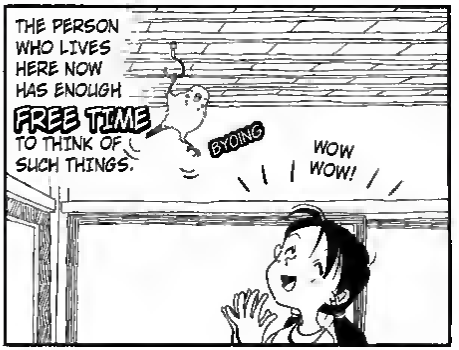
YOU GOT ANO-THER JOB!!
WAHH... TRAIN TICKETS, WEDDING GIFTS, NEW CLOTHES...
WELL... AT THE CEREMONY, MAYOKO FOUND THE GUY THAT SHE'S GONNA GET MARRIED TO, SO....

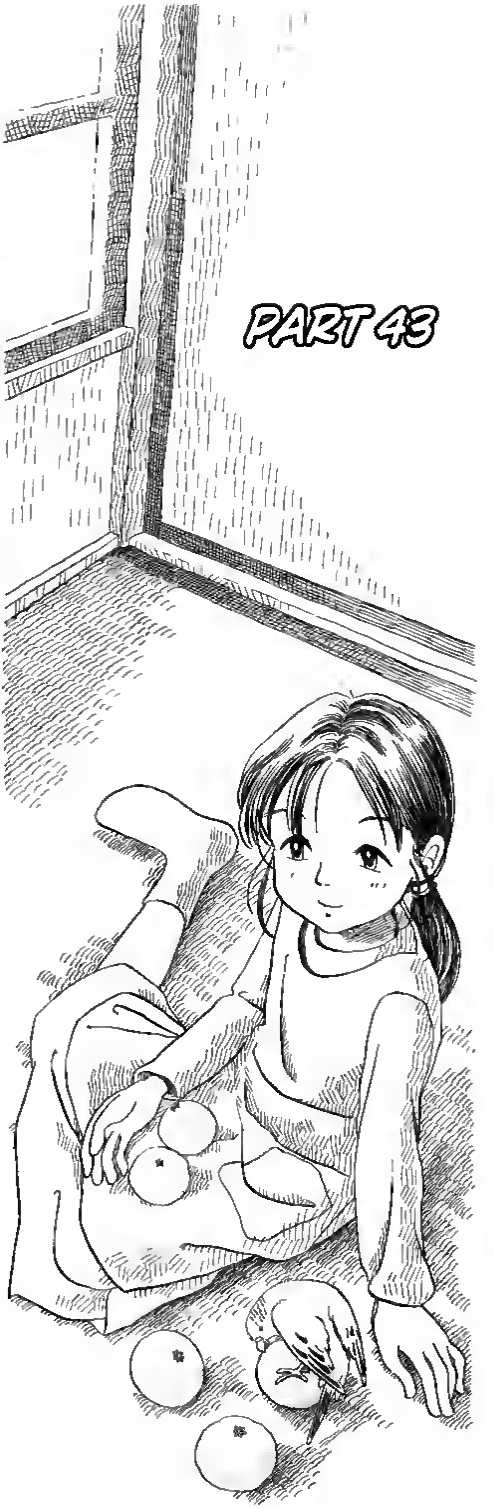

IS IT THAT HARD OF A QUES-TION!!?

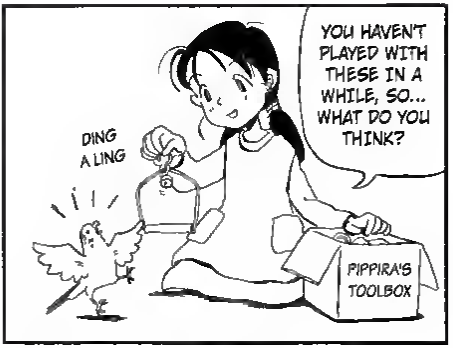

HEY, PIPPIRA!

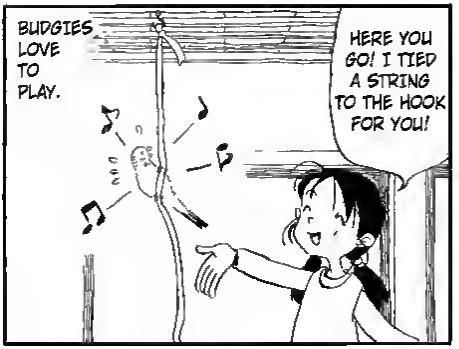

I WON-DER..
WHY WOULD SOMEONE PUT A HOOK WAY UP THERE...?

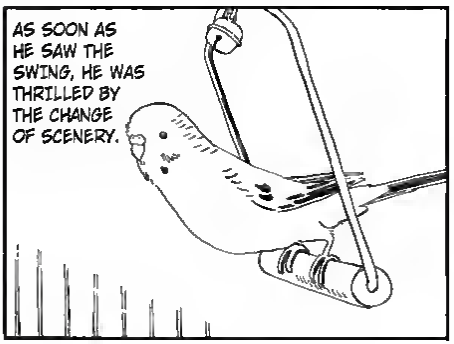

SNRXX
THE UNKNOWN PREVIOUS OCCUPANT OF THE ROOM...
YOU SURE GOT BIG...!

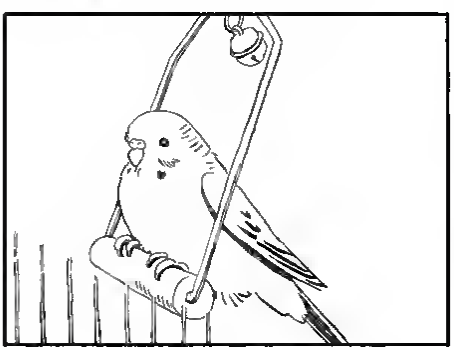

THE PERSON WHO LIVES HERE NOW HAS ENOUGH FREE TIME TO THINK OF SUCH THINGS.
BYOING
WOW WOW!


PART 43

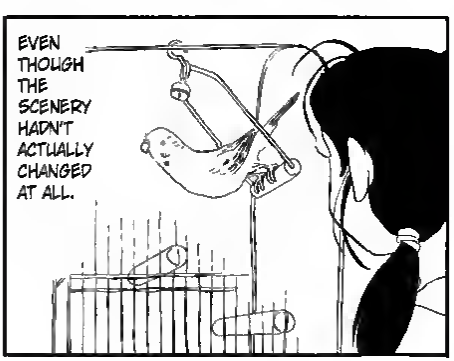

DING A LING
YOU HAVEN'T PLAYED WITH THESE IN A WHILE, SO... WHAT DO YOU THINK?
PIPPIRA'S TOOLBOX

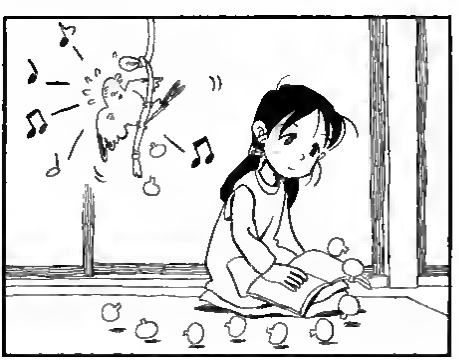

BUDGIES LOVE TO PLAY.
HERE YOU GO! I TIED A STRING TO THE HOOK FOR YOU!

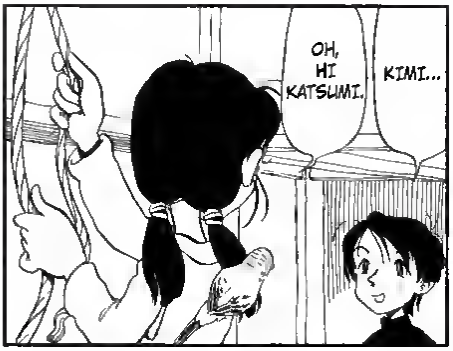

AS SOON AS HE SAW THE SWING, HE WAS THRILLED BY THE CHANGE OF SCENERY.

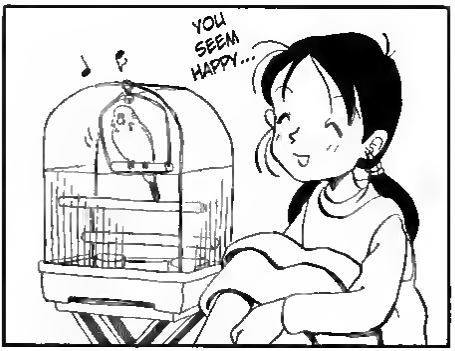


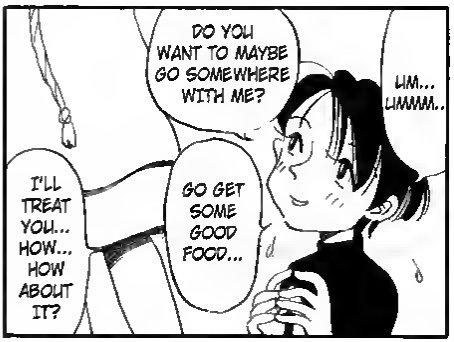
THOUGH THEY GET TIRED OF THINGS QUICKLY, TOO.
HUNH!

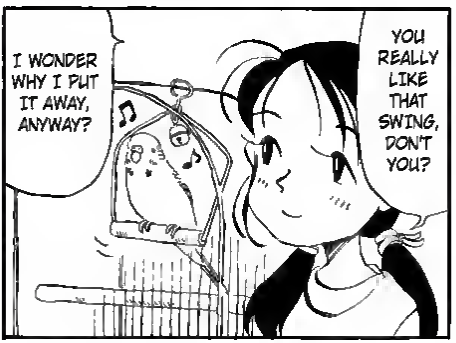

EVEN THOUGH THE SCENERY HADN'T ACTUALLY CHANGED AT ALL.

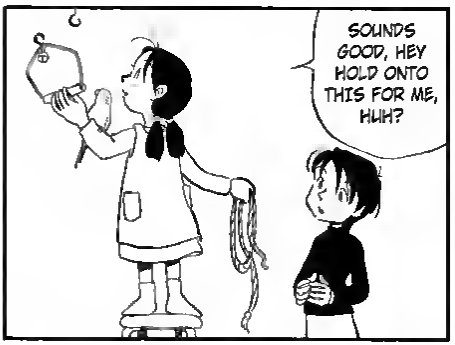


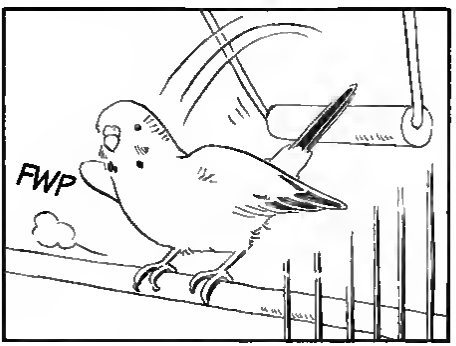

OH, HI KATSUMI.
KIMI...


YOU SEEM HAPPY...

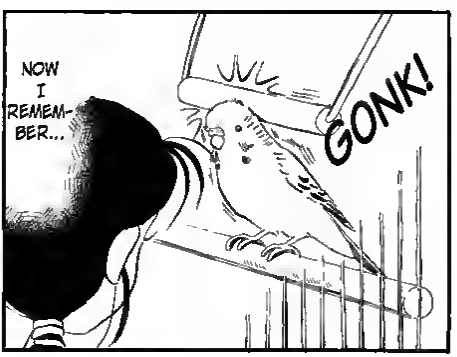

DO YOU WANT TO MAYBE GO SOMEWHERE WITH ME?
UM... UMMM..
I'LL TREAT YOU... HOW... HOW ABOUT IT?
GO GET SOME GOOD FOOD...

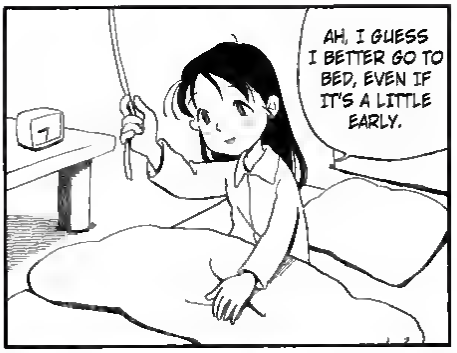

I WONDER WHY I PUT IT AWAY, ANYWAY?
YOU REALLY LIKE THAT SWING, DON'T YOU?

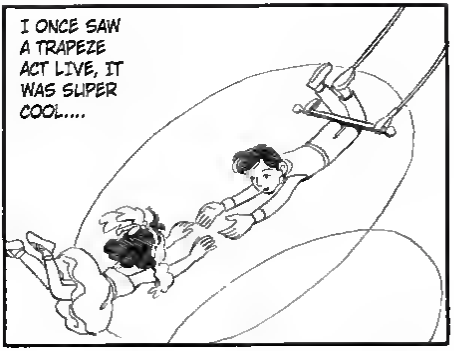

SOUNDS GOOD, HEY HOLD ONTO THIS FOR ME, HUH?

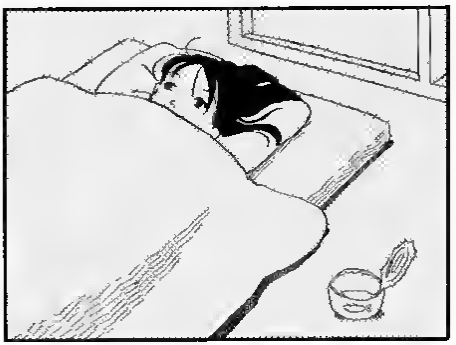

FWP

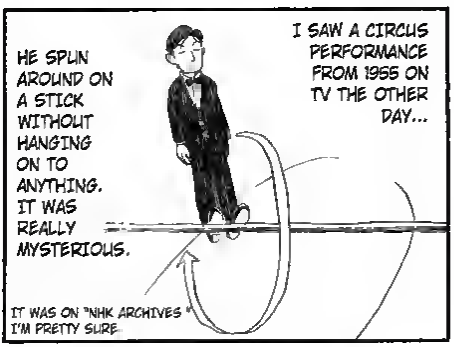
KIMI, YOU DUMB JERK, I HATE YOU, DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT!!!
WH- WHAT!? WHAT!?
I'M NOT TREATING ANYONE!
CHI CHI CHI


NOW I REMEMBER...
GONK!

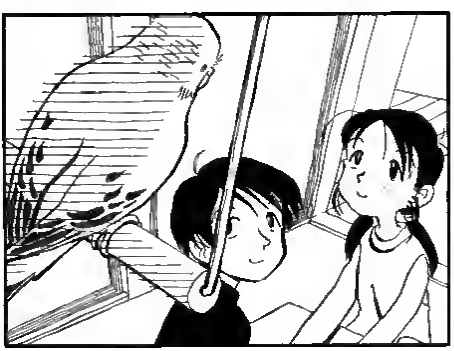

AH, I GUESS I BETTER GO TO BED, EVEN IF IT'S A LITTLE EARLY.

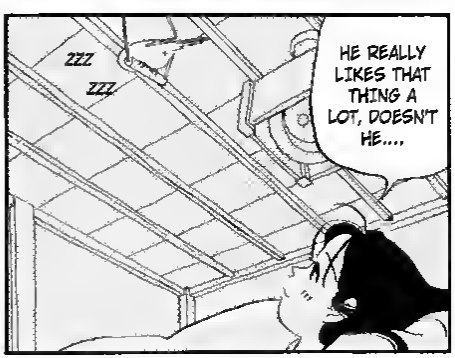

I ONCE SAW A TRAPEZE ACT LIVE, IT WAS SUPER COOL.....

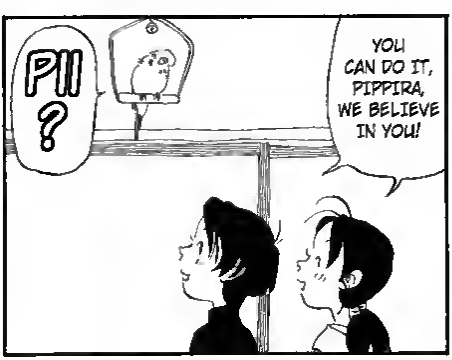


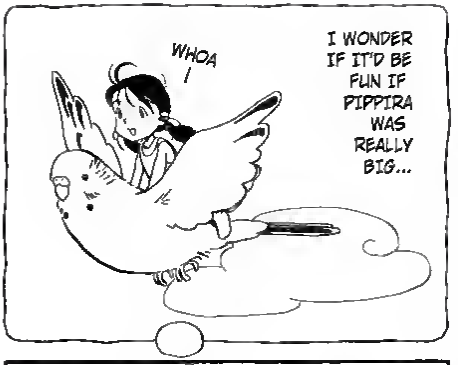

I SAW A CIRCUS PERFORMANCE FROM 1955 ON TV THE OTHER DAY...
HE SPUN AROUND ON A STICK WITHOUT HANGING ON TO ANYTHING. IT WAS REALLY MYSTERIOUS.
IT WAS ON "NHK ARCHIVES" I'M PRETTY SURE.

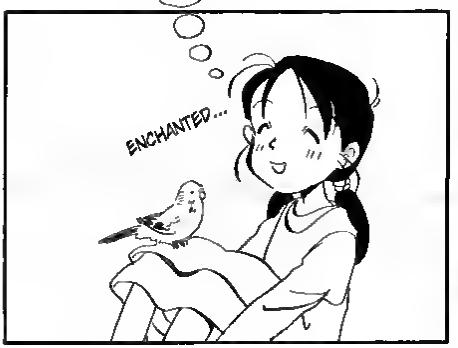
PLUNK

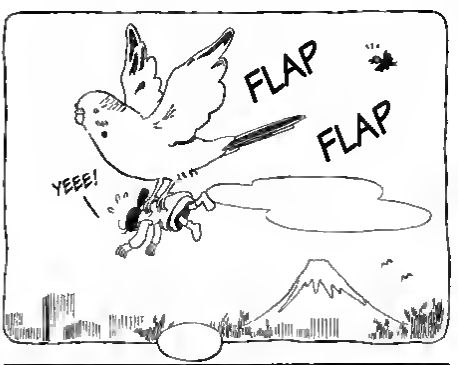


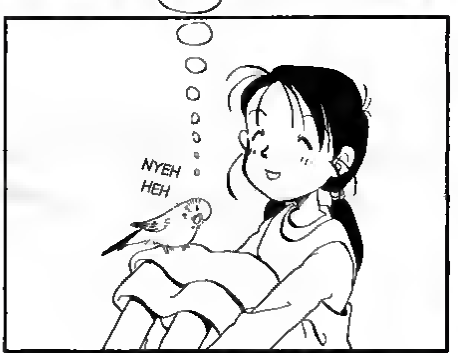

ZZZ
ZZZ
HE REALLY LIKES THAT THING A LOT, DOESN'T HE....

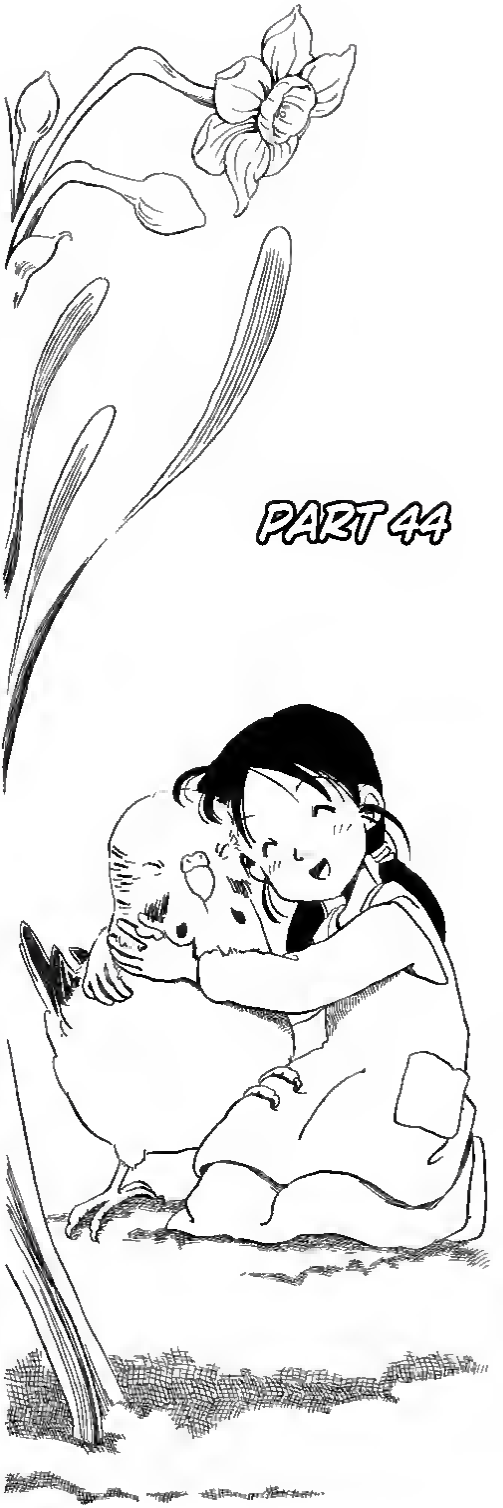

PII ?
YOU CAN DO IT, PIPPIRA, WE BELIEVE IN YOU!

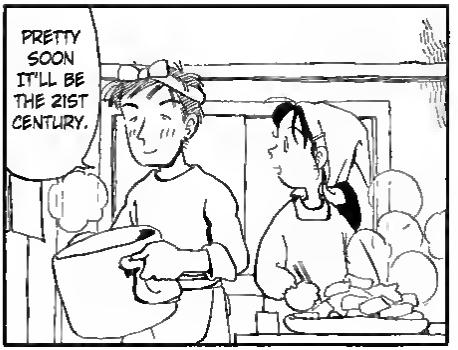

WHOA
I WONDER IF IT'D BE FUN IF PIPPIRA WAS REALLY BIG...

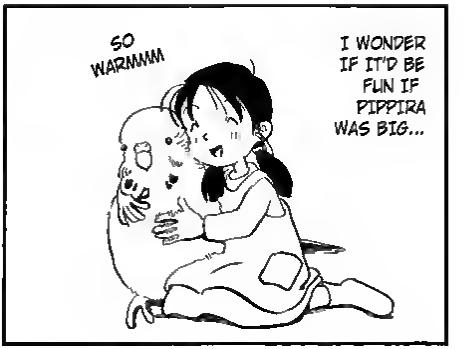

ENCHANTED...

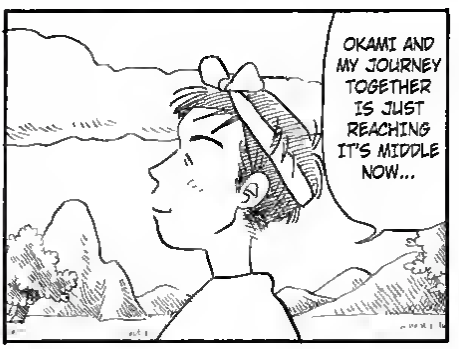

FLAP
FLAP
YEEE!

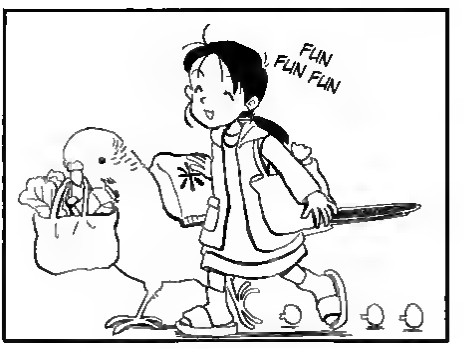

NYEH HEH

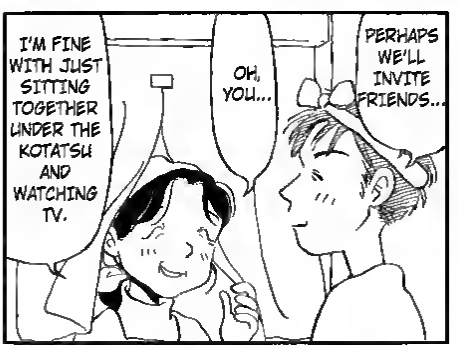

PART 44

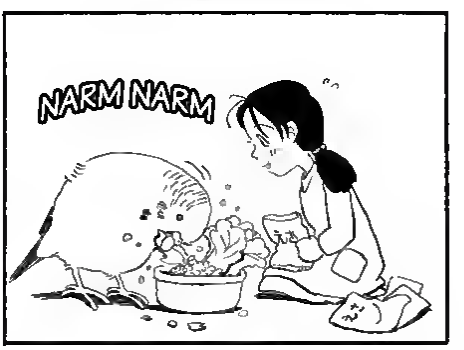

PRETTY SOON IT'LL BE THE 21ST CENTURY.

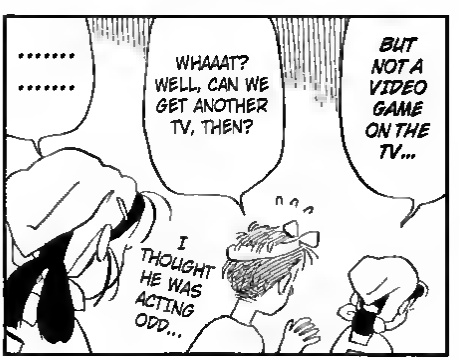

SO WARMMM
I WONDER IF IT'D BE FUN IF PIPPIRA WAS BIG...

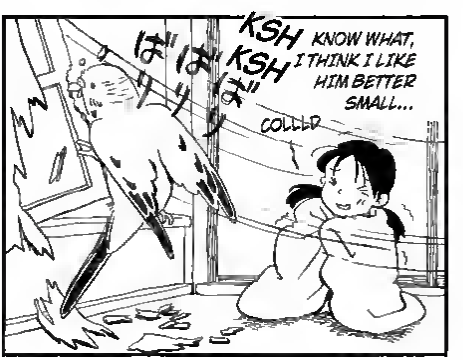

OKAMI AND MY JOURNEY TOGETHER IS JUST REACHING IT'S MIDDLE NOW...


FUN FUN FUN

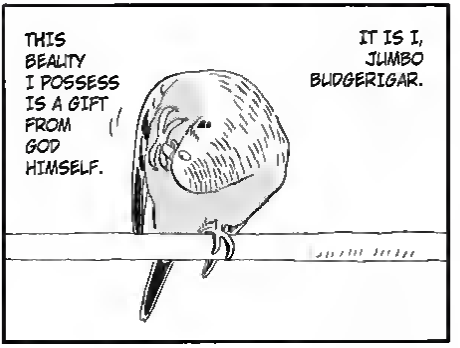

I'M FINE WITH JUST SITTING TOGETHER UNDER THE KOTATSU AND WATCHING TV.
OH, YOU...
PERHAPS WE'LL INVITE FRIENDS...

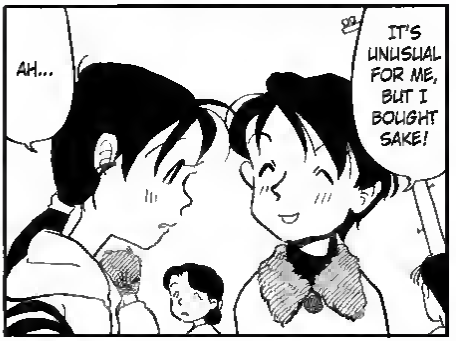

NARM NARM

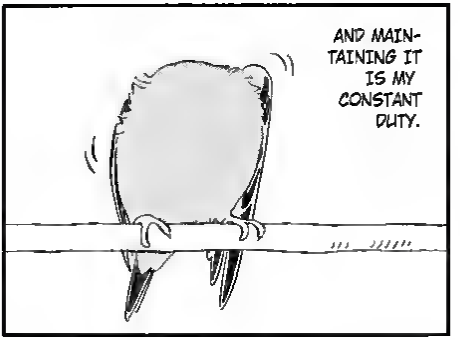

.....
.....
WHAAAT? WELL, CAN WE GET ANOTHER TV, THEN?
BUT NOT A VIDEO GAME ON THE TV...
I THOUGHT HE WAS ACTING ODD...

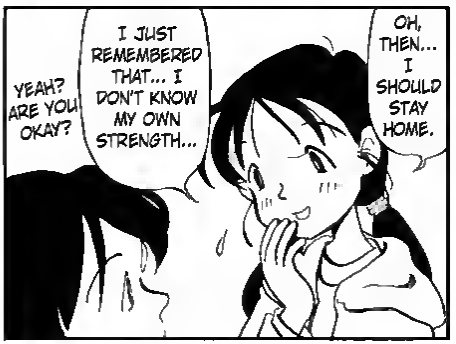

KSH KSH
KNOW WHAT, I THINK I LIKE HIM BETTER SMALL...
COLLLD

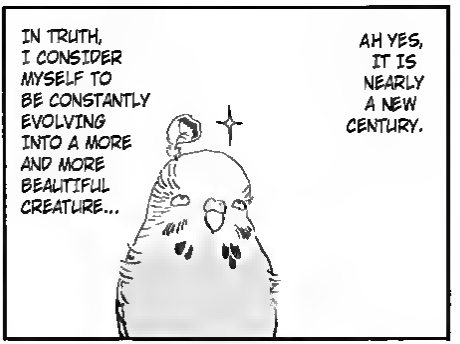
OH YEAH? I CAN?
WE'RE GONNA HAVE A DRINKING PARTY, YOU SHOULD COME!

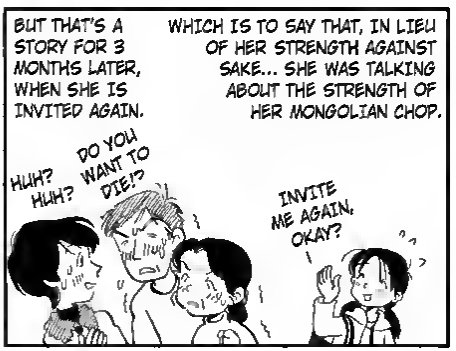

THIS BEAUTY I POSSESS IS A GIFT FROM GOD HIMSELF.
IT IS I, JUMBO BUDGERIGAR.

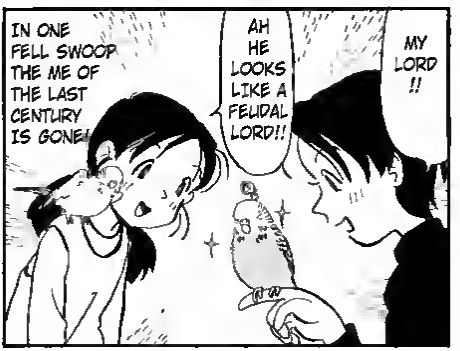

AH...
IT'S UNUSUAL FOR ME, BUT I BOUGHT SAKE!


AND MAINTAINING IT IS MY CONSTANT DUTY.

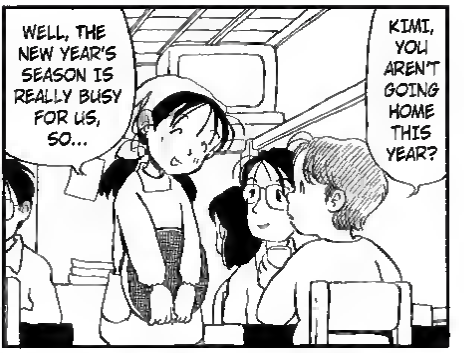

YEAH? ARE YOU OKAY?
I JUST REMEMBERED THAT... I DON'T KNOW MY OWN STRENGTH...
OH, THEN... I SHOULD STAY HOME.

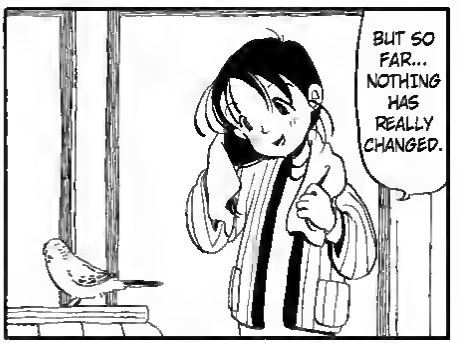

IN TRUTH, I CONSIDER MYSELF TO BE CONSTANTLY EVOLVING INTO A MORE AND MORE BEAUTIFUL CREATURE...
AH YES, IT IS NEARLY A NEW CENTURY.

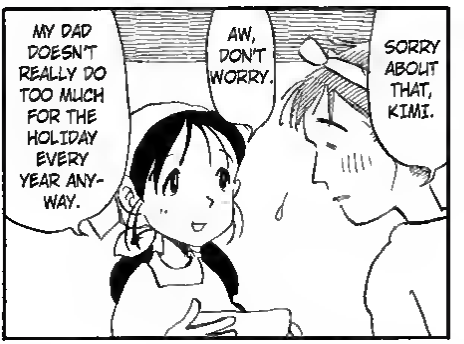

BUT THAT'S A STORY FOR 3 MONTHS LATER, WHEN SHE IS INVITED AGAIN.
WHICH IS TO SAY THAT, IN LIEU OF HER STRENGTH AGAINST SAKE... SHE WAS TALKING ABOUT THE STRENGTH OF HER MONGOLIAN CHOP.
HUH? HUH?
DO YOU WANT TO DIE!?
INVITE ME AGAIN, OKAY?

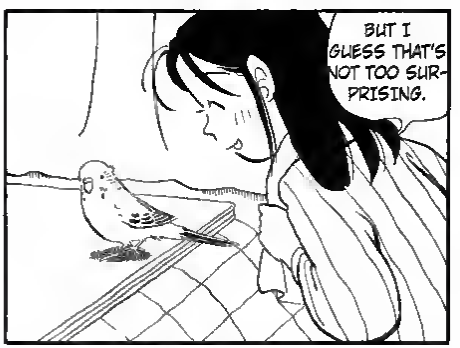

IN ONE FELL SWOOP THE ME OF THE LAST CENTURY IS GONE!
AH HE LOOKS LIKE A FEUDAL LORD!!
MY LORD !!

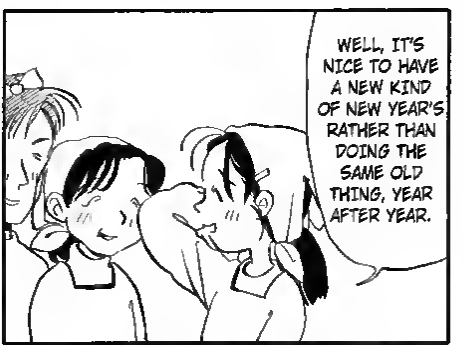
I'VE BEEN WONDERING HOW THE 21ST CENTURY WILL GO FOR A LONG TIME NOW...

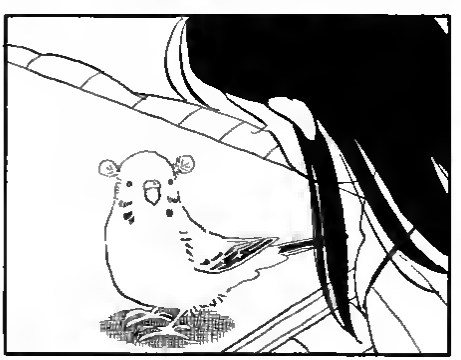

KIMI, YOU AREN'T GOING HOME THIS YEAR?
WELL, THE NEW YEAR'S SEASON IS REALLY BUSY FOR US, SO...

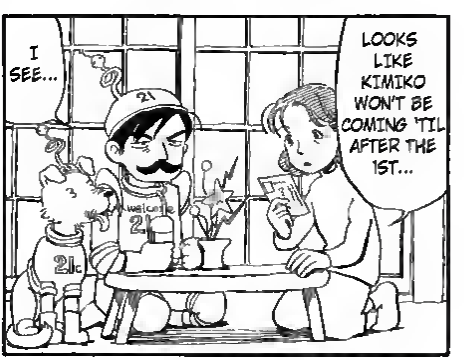

BUT SO FAR... NOTHING HAS REALLY CHANGED.

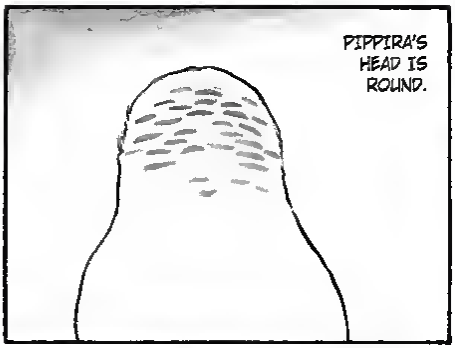

SORRY ABOUT THAT, KIMI.
AW, DON'T WORRY.
MY DAD DOESN'T REALLY DO TOO MUCH FOR THE HOLIDAY EVERY YEAR ANY-WAY.

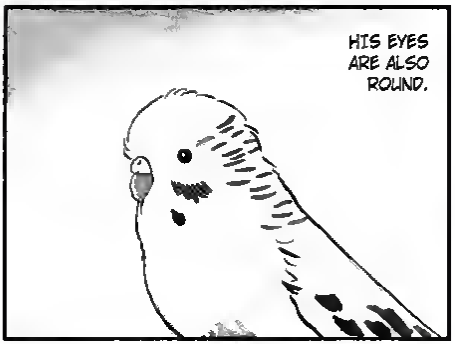

BUT I GUESS THAT'S NOT TOO SUR-PRISING.


WELL, IT'S NICE TO HAVE A NEW KIND OF NEW YEAR'S RATHER THAN DOING THE SAME OLD THING, YEAR AFTER YEAR.

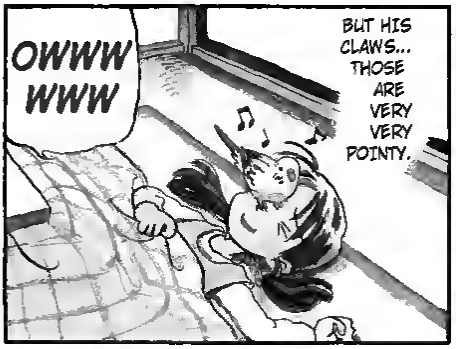



I SEE...
LOOKS LIKE KIMIKO WON'T BE COMING 'TIL AFTER THE 1ST...

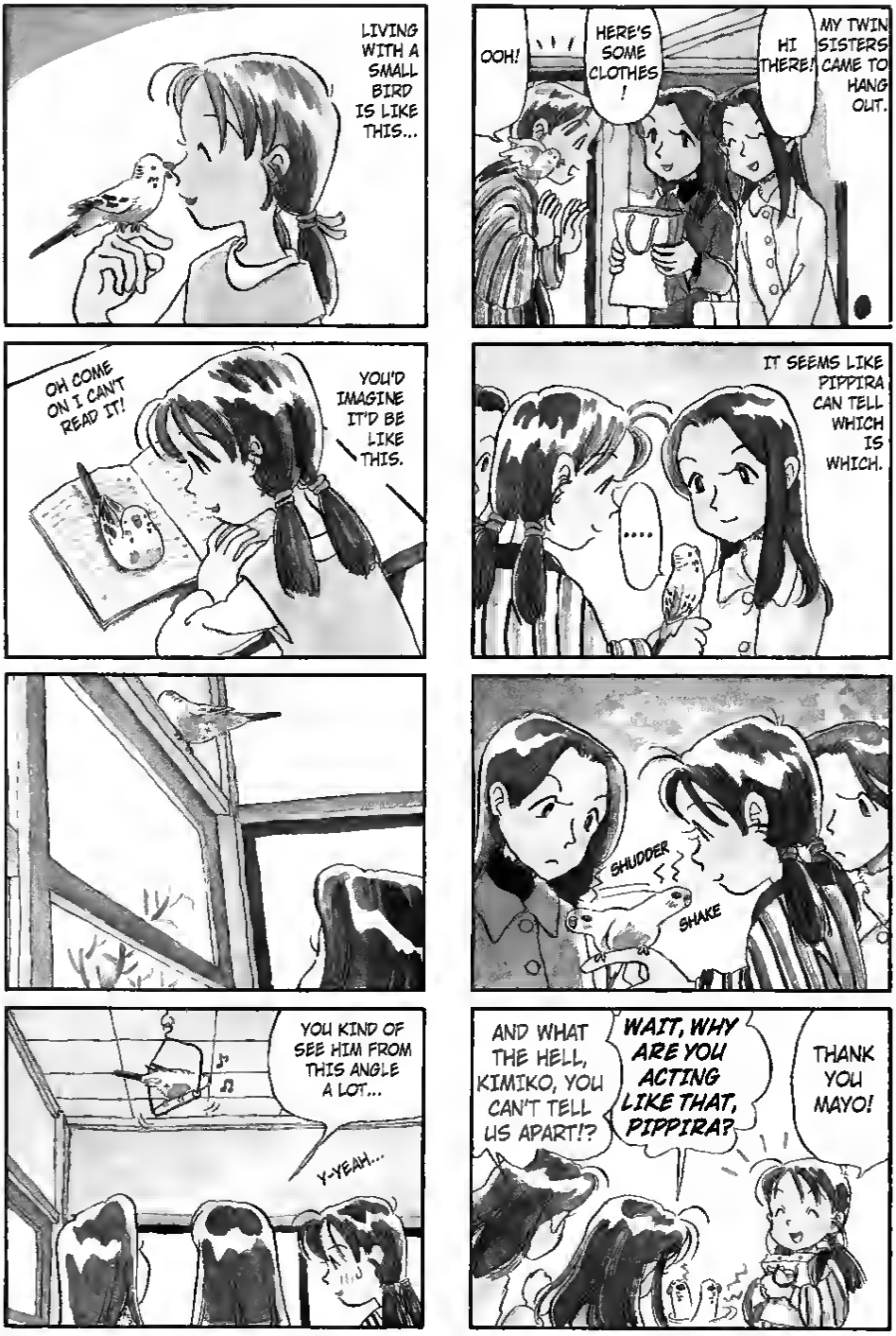

PIPPIRA'S HEAD IS ROUND.


HIS EYES ARE ALSO ROUND.

HE'S ALSO GOT A PRETTY WELL-ROUNDED PERSONALITY...

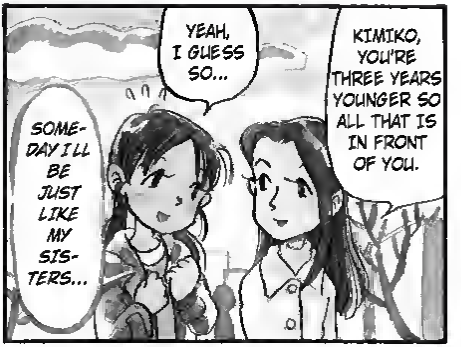

OWWW WWW
BUT HIS CLAWS... THOSE ARE VERY VERY POINTY.

PART 45

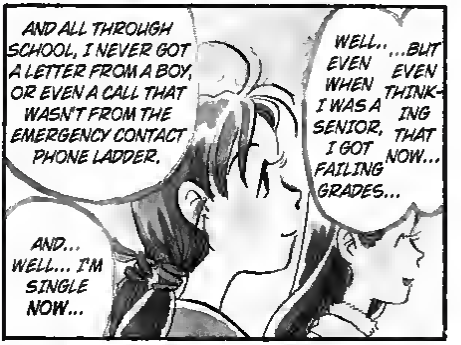

LIVING WITH A SMALL BIRD IS LIKE THIS...
OOH!
HERE'S SOME CLOTHES!
HI THERE!
MY TWIN SISTERS CAME TO HANG OUT.
OH COME ON I CAN'T READ IT!
YOU'D IMAGINE IT'D BE LIKE THIS.
IT SEEMS LIKE PIPPIRA CAN TELL WHICH IS WHICH.
....
SHUDDER
SHAKE
YOU KIND OF SEE HIM FROM THIS ANGLE A LOT...
Y-YEAH...
AND WHAT THE HELL, KIMIKO, YOU CAN'T TELL US APART!?
WAIT, WHY ARE YOU ACTING LIKE THAT, PIPPIRA?
THANK YOU MAYO!

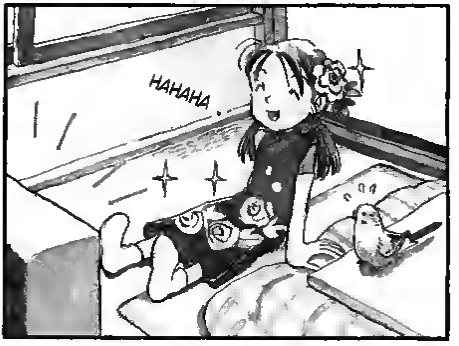
I'M CHEERFUL AND INTELLIGENT AND GOOD-NATURED, TOO! THOUGH LOVE REALLY IS THE BEST MAKEUP.
HOW IN THE WORLD DID I END UP DIVORCED !?
YEAH.
OH ARE YOU GOING HOME ALREADY, MAYO?
HEY! KIMI!!
ボコっ
GWEH
I'M WORRIED HOW MY HUSBAND IS DOING ALONE!
I'M HER BIG SISTER TOKIKO... NICE TO MEET YOU...
ARE YOU ONE OF KIMIKO'S FRIENDS!?
OH MY...
MMHM.
YOU'RE GOOD, THOUGH, TOKI?
YOU GOT SOMETHING TO SAY!?
WHIRL
WHIRL
EEE, TAKE A PICTURE OF US!
MAYBE IT'S YOUR TASTE...
THAT'S A WOMAN, YOU KNOW!
SILENCE
MY HUSBAND AND I ARE SEPARATED...
W-WELL HERE I GO!

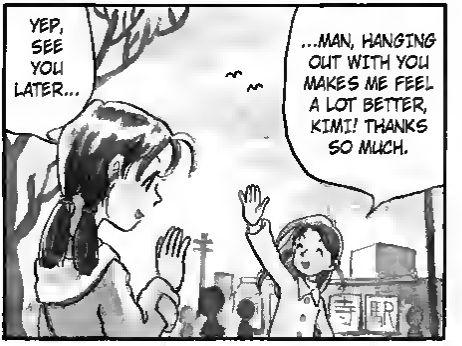
YOU NOTICED, HUH?
HEY KIMI. NEW CLOTHES?

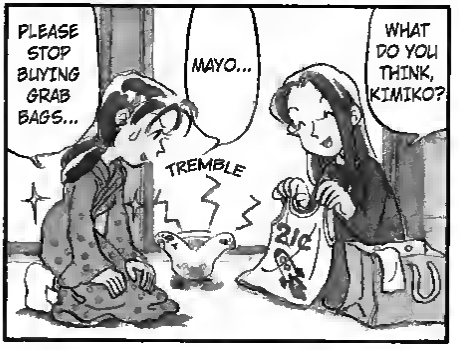

YEAH, I GUESS SO...
KIMIKO, YOU'RE THREE YEARS YOUNGER SO ALL THAT IS IN FRONT OF YOU.
SOME-DAY I'LL BE JUST LIKE MY SIS-TERS...

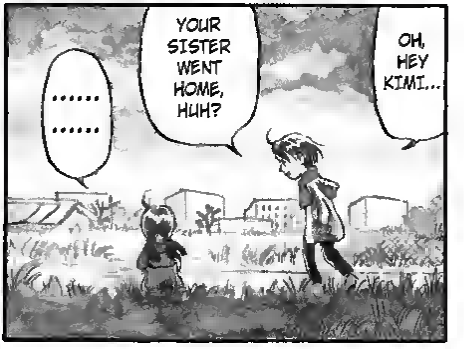
OKAY OFF TO THE PUBLIC BATH...

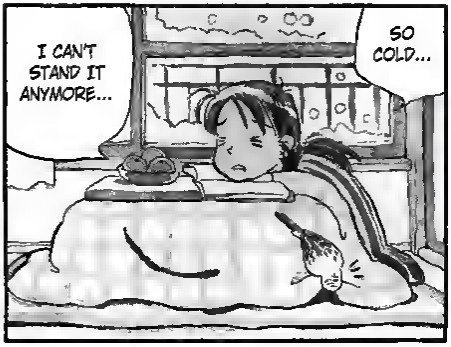

AND ALL THROUGH SCHOOL, I NEVER GOT A LETTER FROM A BOY, OR EVEN A CALL THAT WASN'T FROM THE EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE LADDER.
WELL... ...BUT EVEN WHEN I WAS A SENIOR, I GOT FAILING GRADES... EVEN THINK-ING THAT NOW...
AND... WELL... I'M SINGLE NOW...

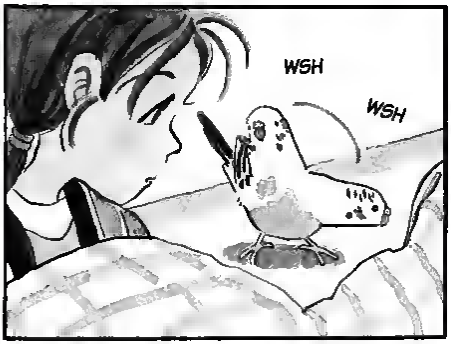

HAHAHA

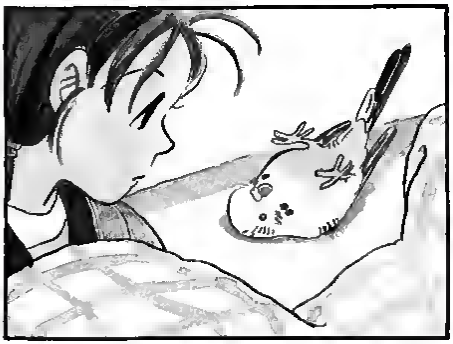

YEP, SEE YOU LATER...
...MAN, HANGING OUT WITH YOU MAKES ME FEEL A LOT BETTER, KIMI! THANKS SO MUCH.


PLEASE STOP BUYING GRAB BAGS...
MAYO...
WHAT DO YOU THINK, KIMIKO?
TREMBLE
21¢


YOUR SISTER WENT HOME, HUH?
OH, HEY KIMI...

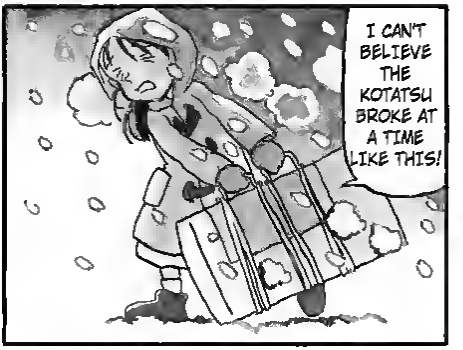

I CAN'T STAND IT ANYMORE...
SO COLD...


WSH
WSH



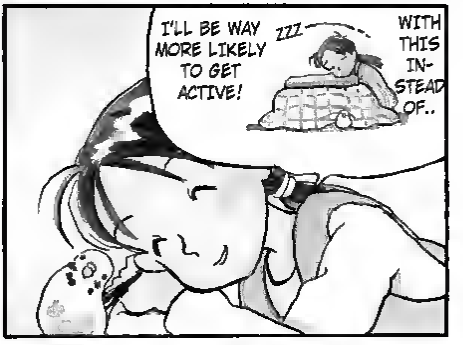
"LET'S MAKE A SNOW FORT?"
OH, NO?
PIPPIRA, DO YOU WANNA COME IN TO THE KOTATSU?
NO?
THE RIGHT ANSWER WAS... "THE KOTATSU IS BROKEN."

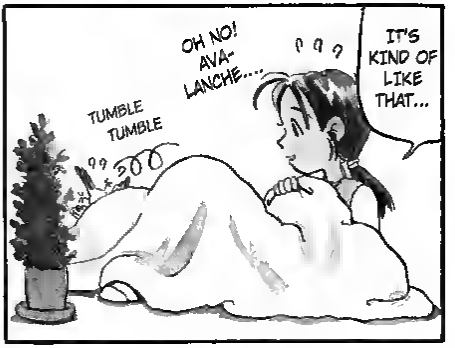
PART 46

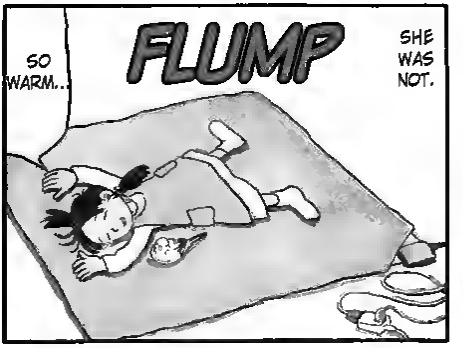

I CAN'T BELIEVE THE KOTATSU BROKE AT A TIME LIKE THIS!

HOW IS IT?
WELL, I TOOK THIS OPPORTUNITY TO TRY BUYING AN ELECTRIC RUG INSTEAD!

PIPPIRA HAS NEVER SET FOOT ON SNOW-COVERED GROUND...

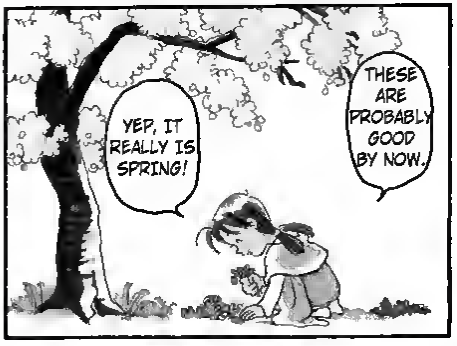

I'LL BE WAY MORE LIKELY TO GET ACTIVE!
ZZZ
WITH THIS INSTEAD OF..

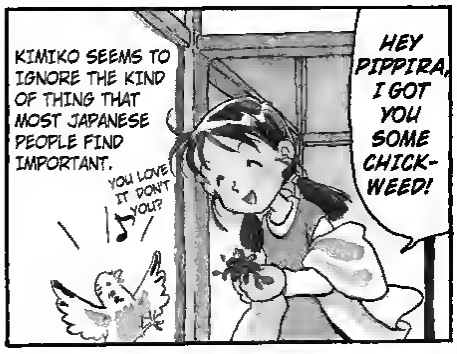

OH NO! AVALANCHE...
TUMBLE TUMBLE
IT'S KIND OF LIKE THAT...


SO WARM..
FLUMP
SHE WAS NOT.

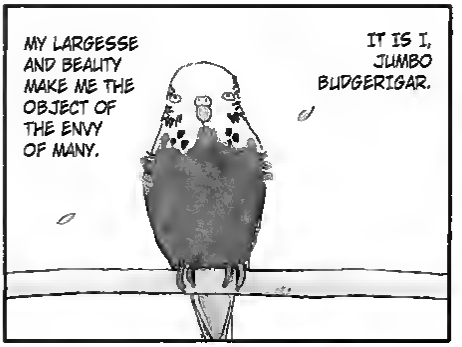
UH OH, THE WEATHER GOT WARM!
....AH
YEEK
どすん
THUD
RUSTLE
YOU HOME, KIMI...?
CHI CHI CHI
どぴゅん
FWUMP
"MIS-FORTUNES NEVER COME SINGLY..."

YEP!
IT'S ALMOST SPRING, HUH...
HOW ABOUT I MAKE US SOMETHING GOOD TO EAT!
OH, KIMIKO!
WHOA! YOU MADE IT BY HAND?
I GOT UP EARLY AND PREPARED EVERY-THING...
TSU-NA...
UM... I THINK THAT THOSE RED GLOVES LOOK REALLY GOOD ON YOU....!
STRAWBERRY
IT'S FROST-BITE !?
I WAS MAKING SNOWMEN...
THIS ISN'T A PAIR OF GLOVES.
FOR KIMIKO, SPRING WAS FAR AWAY.
ITCHYY
O-OKAY...
SO THEY DON'T MELT.
EAT THEM ALL UP, PLEASE!
SNOW AGAIN... YAY YAY

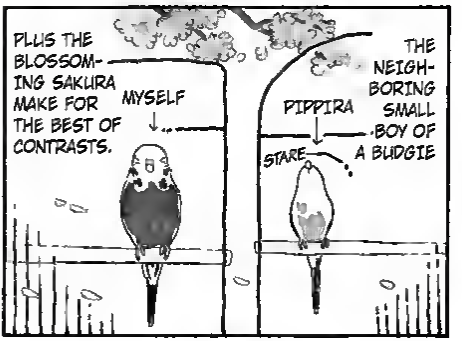

YEP, IT REALLY IS SPRING!
THESE ARE PROBABLY GOOD BY NOW.


KIMIKO SEEMS TO IGNORE THE KIND OF THING THAT MOST JAPANESE PEOPLE FIND IMPORTANT.
YOU LOVE IT DON'T YOU?
HEY PIPPIRA, I GOT YOU SOME CHICK-WEED!

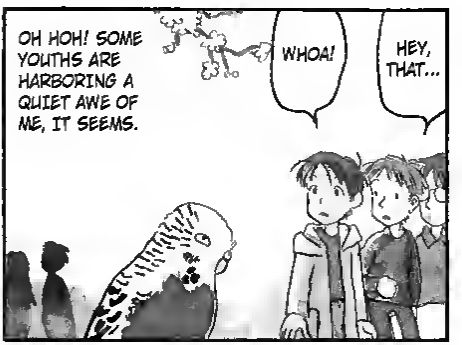
PART 47

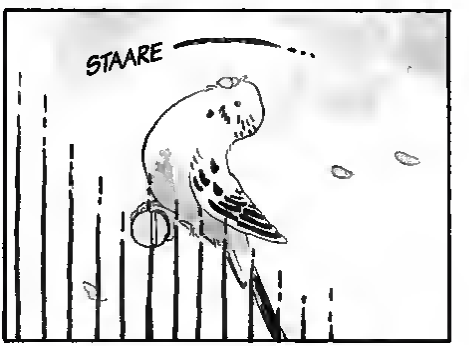

MY LARGESSE AND BEAUTY MAKE ME THE OBJECT OF THE ENVY OF MANY.
IT IS I, JUMBO BUDGERIGAR.

LONG TIME NO SEE!
YEP!
AH, HI KATSUMI! SAKURA-VIEWING?

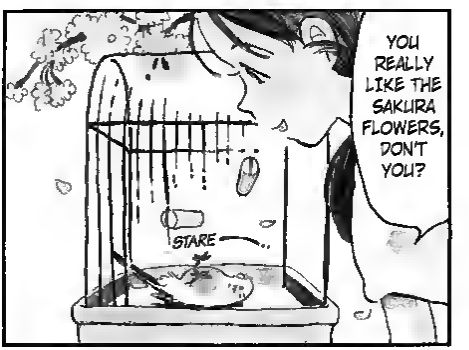

PLUS THE BLOSSOM-ING SAKURA MAKE FOR THE BEST OF CONTRASTS.
MYSELF
PIPPIRA
THE NEIGH-BORING SMALL BOY OF A BUDGIE
STARE

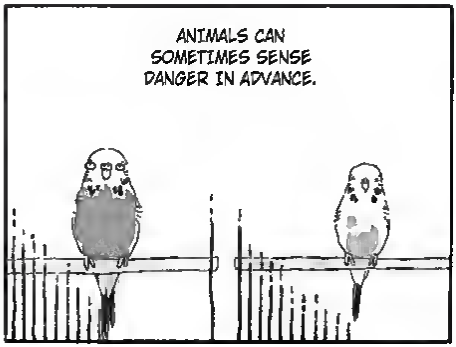
OKAY!
KIMI, YOU SHOULD GO GET PIPPIRA AND COME HANG OUT!

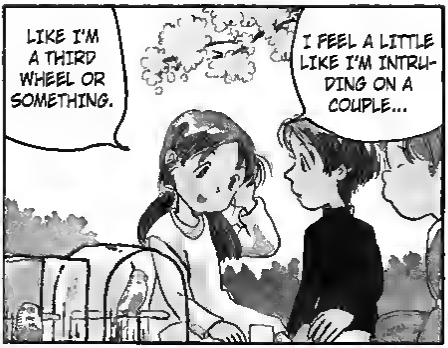

OH HOH! SOME YOUTHS ARE HARBORING A QUIET AWE OF ME, IT SEEMS.
WHOA!
HEY, THAT...

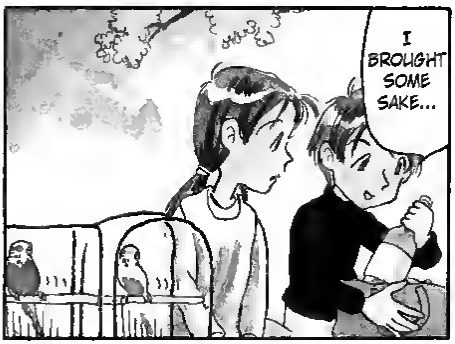

STAARE

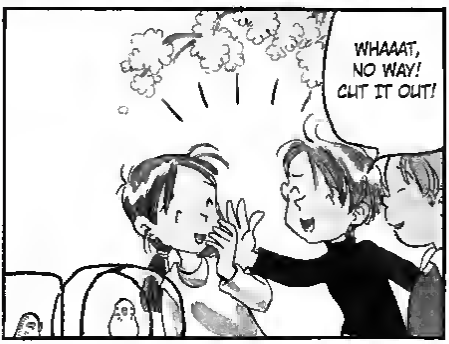
IF THIS THING JUMPED UP ON YOUR FINGER, IT'D BREAK!
IT'S SO GIANT!
WAAAH IT'S HUGE!

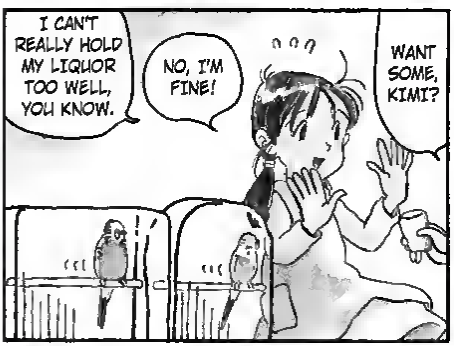

YOU REALLY LIKE THE SAKURA FLOWERS, DON'T YOU?
STARE

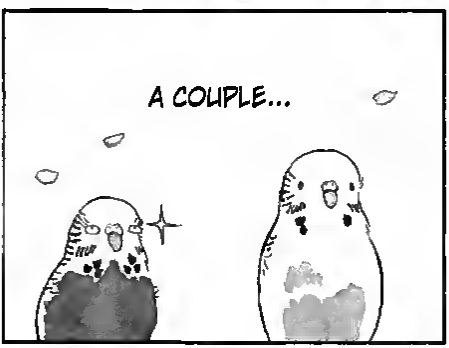

ANIMALS CAN SOMETIMES SENSE DANGER IN ADVANCE.

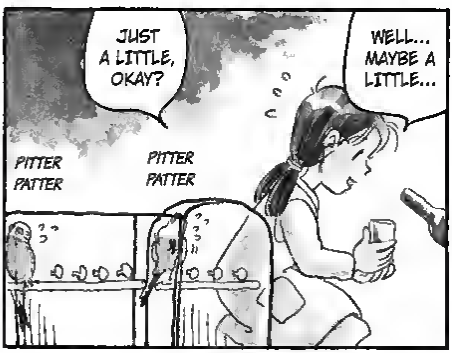

LIKE I'M A THIRD WHEEL OR SOMETHING.
I FEEL A LITTLE LIKE I'M INTRUDING ON A COUPLE...


I BROUGHT SOME SAKE...

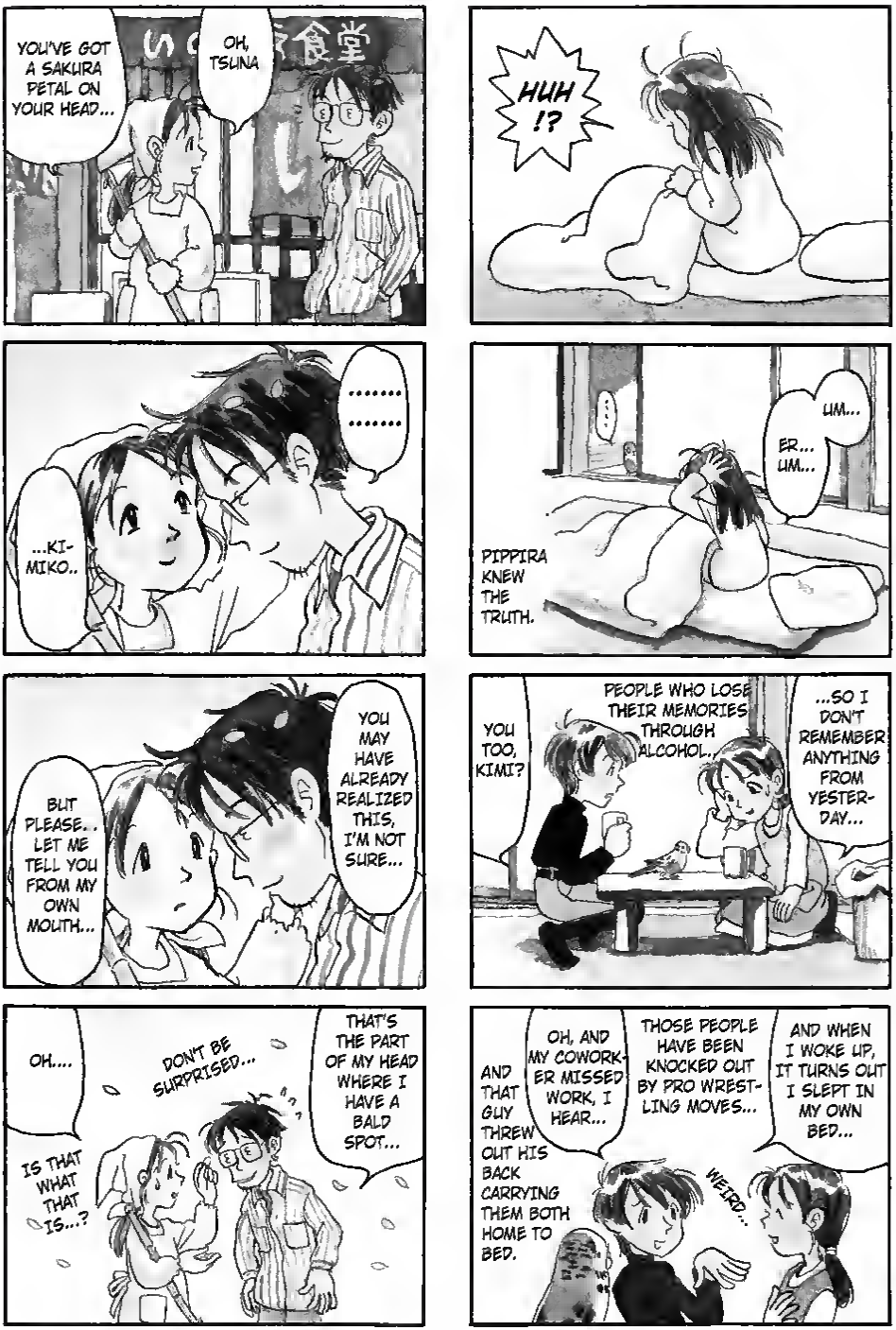

WHAAAT, NO WAY! CUT IT OUT!

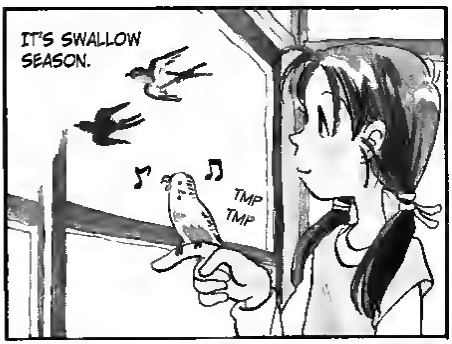

I CAN'T REALLY HOLD MY LIQUOR TOO WELL, YOU KNOW.
NO, I'M FINE!
WANT SOME, KIMI?


A COUPLE...


JUST A LITTLE, OKAY?
WELL... MAYBE A LITTLE...
PITTER PATTER
PITTER PATTER

WAAAH WHAT, WHAT?
YAAARGH
CHI CHI CHI CHI CHI
HMPH


YOU'VE GOT A SAKURA PETAL ON YOUR HEAD...
OH, TSUNA
HUH !?
.....
.....
...KI-MIKO..
UM...
ER... UM...
PIPPIRA KNEW THE TRUTH.
YOU MAY HAVE ALREADY REALIZED THIS, I'M NOT SURE...
BUT PLEASE.. LET ME TELL YOU FROM MY OWN MOUTH...
PEOPLE WHO LOSE THEIR MEMORIES THROUGH ALCOHOL..
YOU TOO, KIMI?
...SO I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING FROM YESTER-DAY...
THAT'S THE PART OF MY HEAD WHERE I HAVE A BALD SPOT...
DON'T BE SURPRISED...
OH....
IS THAT WHAT THAT IS...?
AND WHEN I WOKE UP, IT TURNS OUT I SLEPT IN MY OWN BED...
THOSE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN KNOCKED OUT BY PRO WREST-LING MOVES...
OH, AND MY COWORK-ER MISSED WORK, I HEAR...
AND THAT GUY THREW OUT HIS BACK CARRYING THEM BOTH HOME TO BED.
WEIRD...

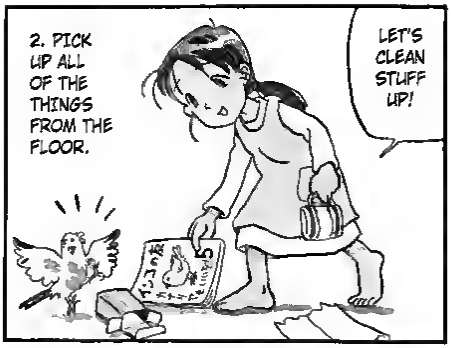

IT'S SWALLOW SEASON.
TMP TMP

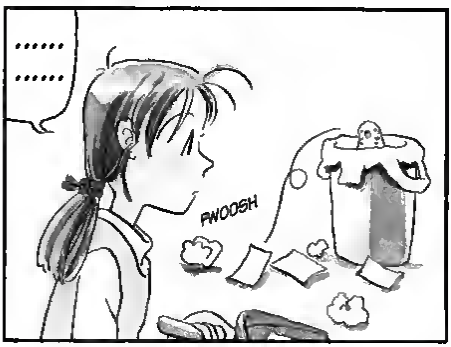
THEY PROBABLY THINK OF PIPPIRA AS A PRETTY WEIRD AND RIDICULOUS CREATURE.
PII PII
FLAIL

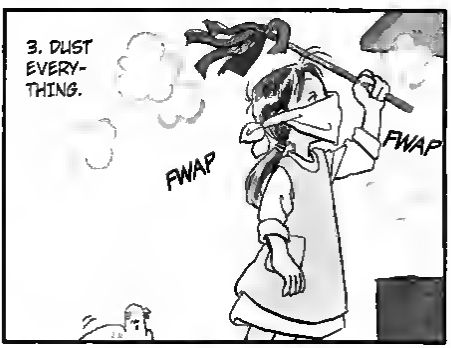
PART 48

WHO SHOULD WE SEND THEM TO?
I BOUGHT SOME POST-CARDS.
MY LITTLE SISTER IS GOING OFF TO COLLEGE.
CON-GRATS ON GOING INTO COLLEGE!
OH, TOJIKO!
I BETTER GO GET SOME.
YEAH YEAH
OH, WOOPS! I FORGOT TO BUY STAMPS!
YOUR SPECIALTY IS SNACKS AND CANDY, ISN'T IT?
MAKE HER SOME-THING!
WHAT SHOULD I SEND HER FOR A GIFT?
AH!
I'M HOOME!
WHAT ABOUT SOMETHING ELECTRONIC, AN APPLIANCE OR SOME-THING?
USEFUL THINGS ARE AL-WAYS GOOD.
Y-YOU TURNED THE POSTCARDS INTO STAMPS!!
KIMI....
HOW DO I USE THIS?
AND SO SHE ENDED UP SENDING A HANDMADE RADIO....

THERE WE GO! ALL DONE....
5 PICK IT UP WITH THE DUST PAN.
PLUNK

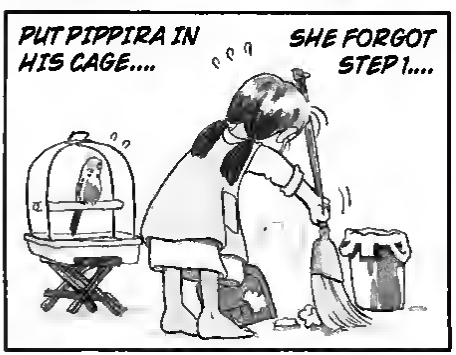

2. PICK UP ALL OF THE THINGS FROM THE FLOOR.
LET'S CLEAN STUFF UP!

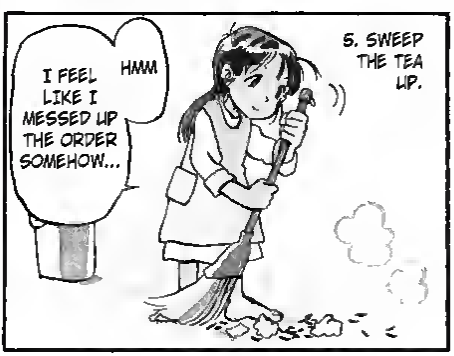

.....
.....
FWOOSH


3. DUST EVERY-THING.
FWAP
FWAP

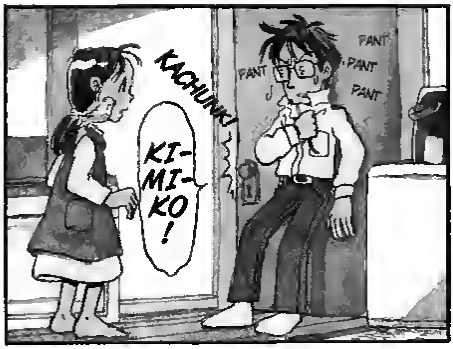
PII?

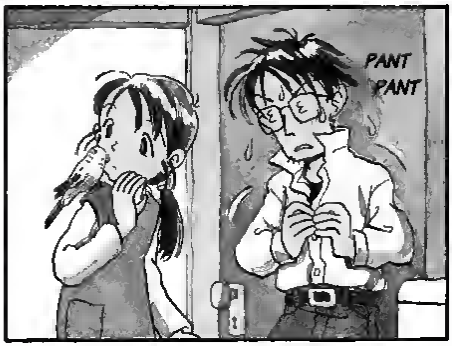
4. SCATTER WET TEA LEAVES.

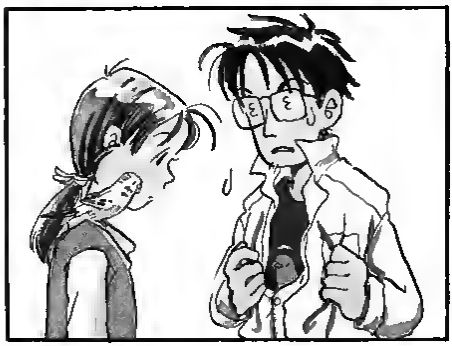

PUT PIPPIRA IN HIS CAGE....
SHE FORGOT STEP 1....

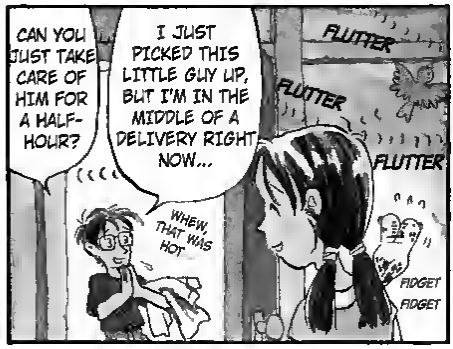

HMM
I FEEL LIKE I MESSED UP THE ORDER SOMEHOW...
5. SWEEP THE TEA UP.

ZZZ
ZZZ
I SOME GREAT INGREDIENTS FROM THE SUPPLIER!!
HEY THERE!
ACHO
ACHOO
BIRD'S NEST SOUP
TO-DAY ONLY!
5 BOWLS ONLY
MAYBE I TOO HAVE A POLLEN ALLERGY AFTER ALL?
WELL, NOT EVERY-ONE HAS HEARD OF IT, YOU KNOW...
I'VE BEEN KEEPING A WATCH OUT...
HMMM... WHY'S NO ONE ORDERING?
AH... AH...
SHE DOES NOT!!
YEAHH, MAYBE THEY'RE NOT ORDERING 'COS THEY KNOW YOU DO STUFF LIKE THAT...
AND I MADE THESE SPECIAL BOWLS JUST FOR THIS MENU ITEM....
AND I MADE LITTLE CHICKS OF WHEAT FLOUR

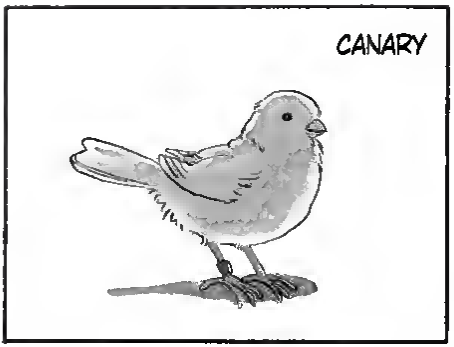

KACHUNK!
KI-MI-KO!
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT

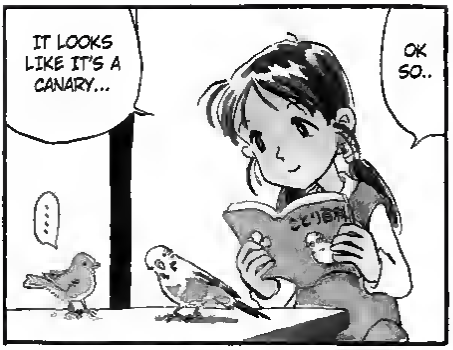

PANT
PANT

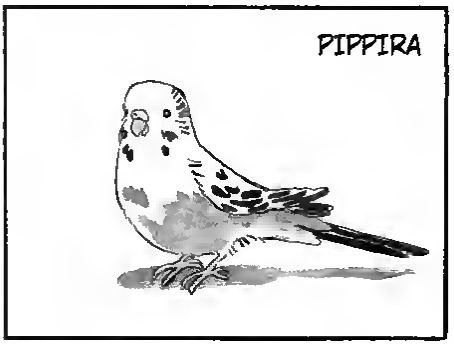


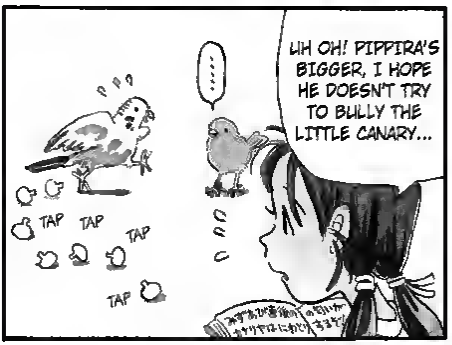

CAN YOU JUST TAKE CARE OF HIM FOR A HALF-HOUR?
I JUST PICKED THIS LITTLE GUY UP, BUT I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A DELIVERY RIGHT NOW...
WHEW, THAT WAS HOT.
FLUTTER
FLUTTER
FLUTTER
FIDGET
FIDGET

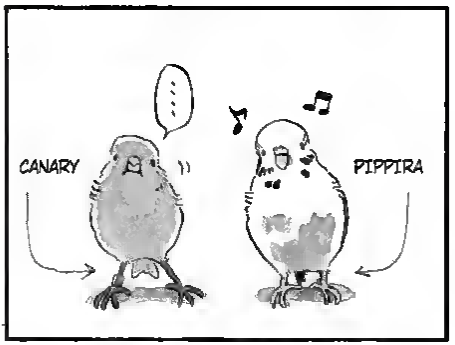
PART 49

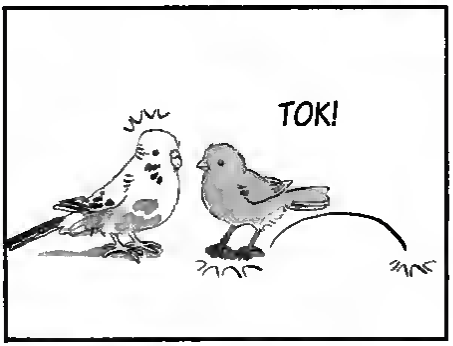

CANARY

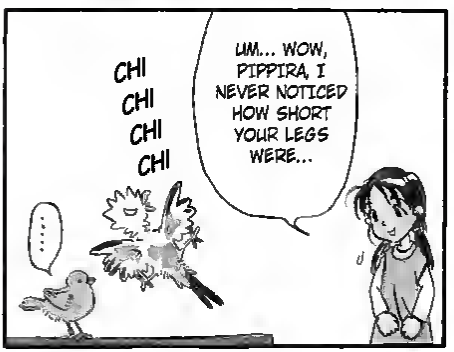

IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S A CANARY...
OK SO..

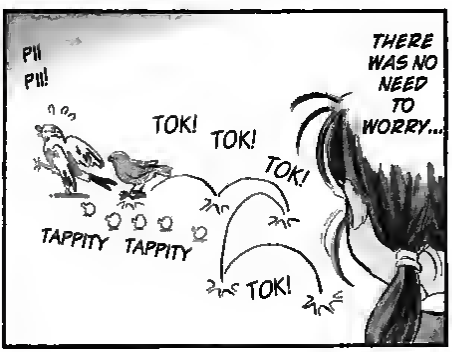

PIPPIRA

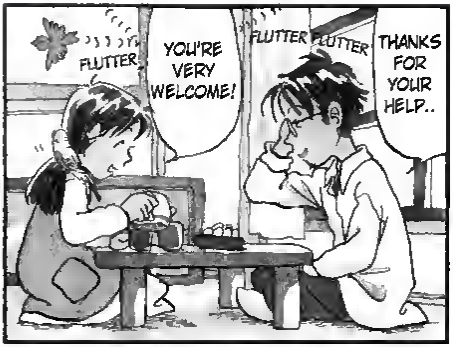

TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
UH OH! PIPPIRA'S BIGGER, I HOPE HE DOESN'T TRY TO BULLY THE LITTLE CANARY...

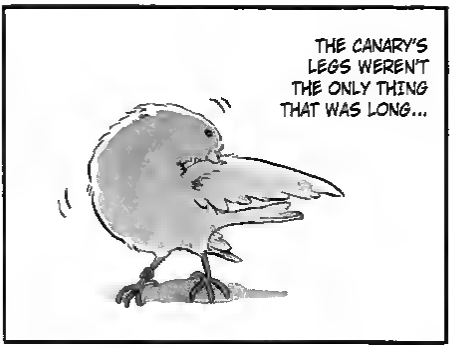

CANARY
PIPPIRA

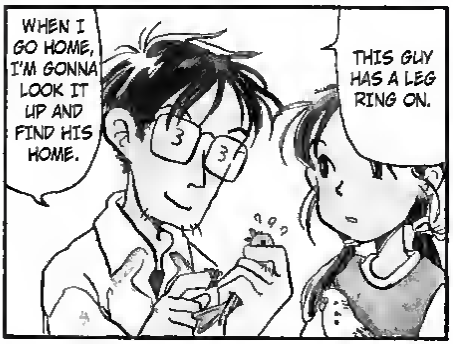

TOK!

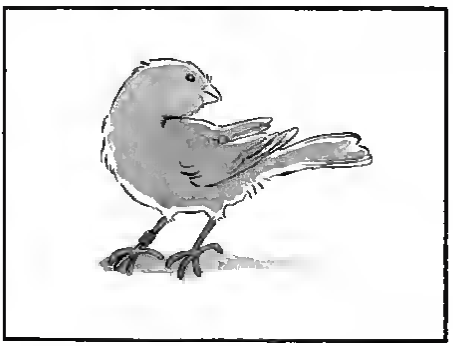

CHI
CHI
CHI
CHI
UM... WOW, PIPPIRA, I NEVER NOTICED HOW SHORT YOUR LEGS WERE...

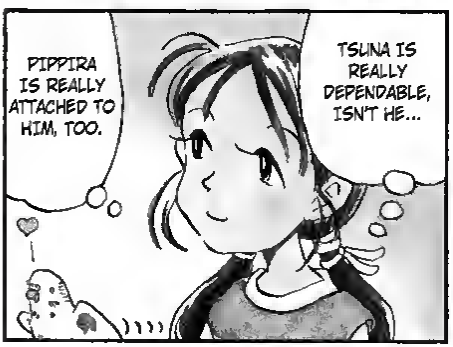

PII
PII!
TOK!
TOK!
TOK!
TOK!
TAPPITY
TAPPITY
THERE WAS NO NEED TO WORRY...

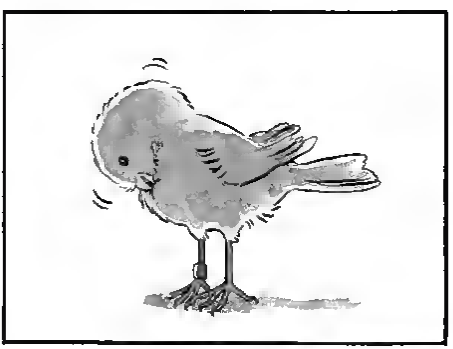

FLUTTER
YOU'RE VERY WELCOME!
FLUTTER FLUTTER
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP..


THE CANARY'S LEGS WEREN'T THE ONLY THING THAT WAS LONG...


WHEN I GO HOME, I'M GONNA LOOK IT UP AND FIND HIS HOME.
THIS GUY HAS A LEG RING ON.



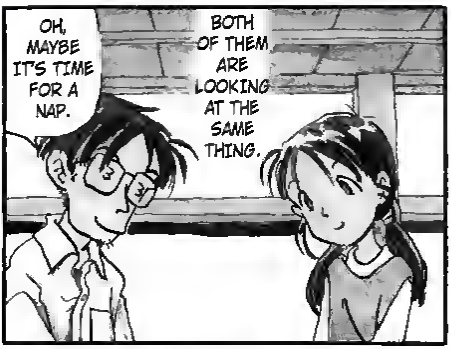

PIPPIRA IS REALLY ATTACHED TO HIM, TOO.
TSUNA IS REALLY DEPENDABLE, ISN'T HE...

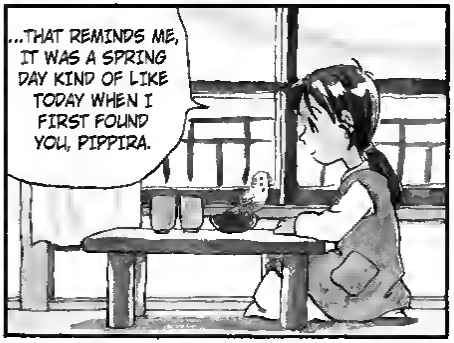


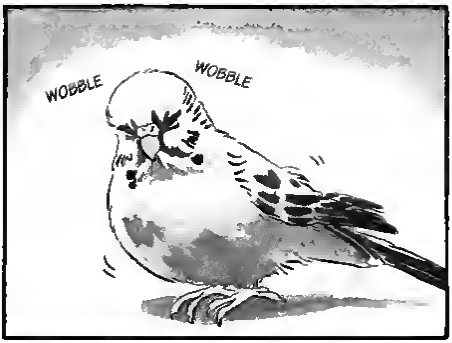
STARE
....
AH... THIS IS GOOD TEA...
HAAANG
YOU'RE VERY CALM...

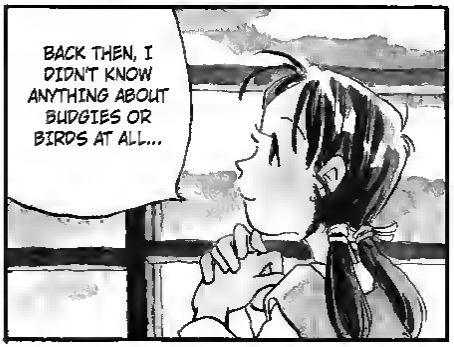
ITS NECK WAS ALSO UNEXPECTEDLY LONG...
TWITCH
TWITCH

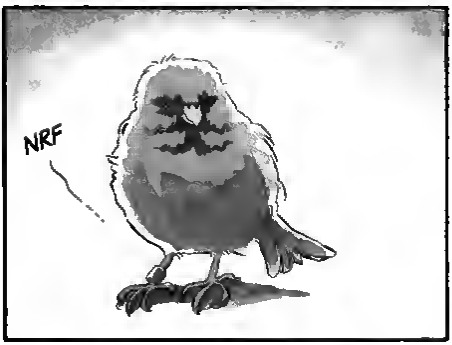
I HOPE YOU FIND HIS OWNER SOON.
THANKS FOR THE BAG..
WELL THEN.


OH, MAYBE IT'S TIME FOR A NAP.
BOTH OF THEM ARE LOOKING AT THE SAME THING.

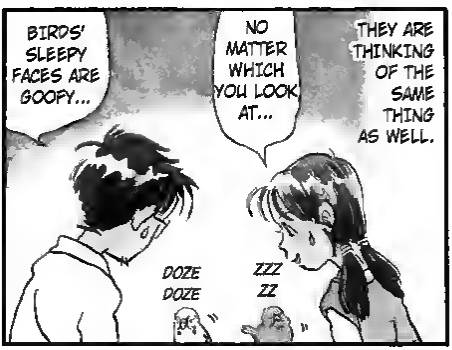

...THAT REMINDS ME, IT WAS A SPRING DAY KIND OF LIKE TODAY WHEN I FIRST FOUND YOU, PIPPIRA.

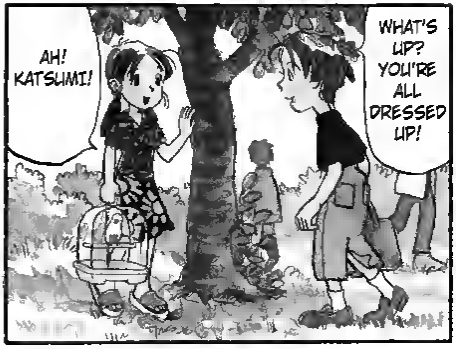

WOBBLE
WOBBLE


BACK THEN, I DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT BUDGIES OR BIRDS AT ALL...

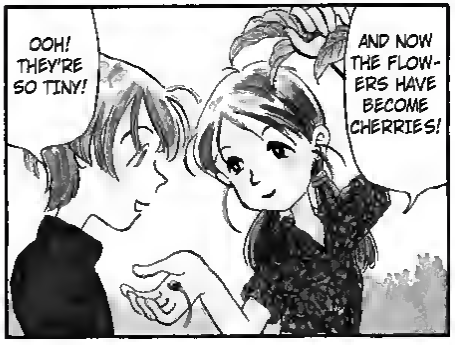

NRF

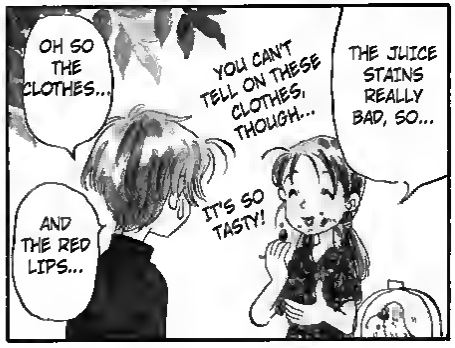
EVEN NOW, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THEM...
GE GE GE


BIRDS' SLEEPY FACES ARE GOOFY...
NO MATTER WHICH YOU LOOK AT...
THEY ARE THINKING OF THE SAME THING AS WELL.
DOZE DOZE
ZZZ ZZ


AH! KATSUMI!
WHAT'S UP? YOU'RE ALL DRESSED UP!

IN APRIL WE CAME HERE TO LOOK AT THE SAKURA BLOSSOMS.

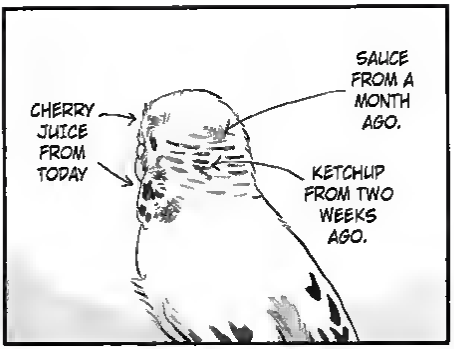

OOH! THEY'RE SO TINY!
AND NOW THE FLOWERS HAVE BECOME CHERRIES!

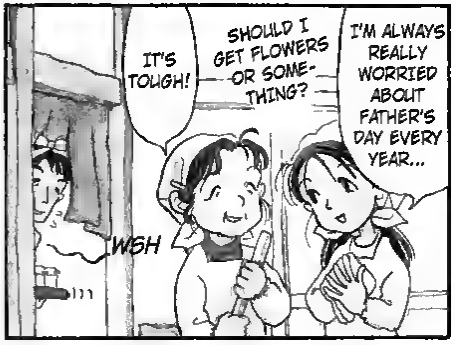

OH SO THE CLOTHES...
YOU CAN'T TELL ON THESE CLOTHES, THOUGH...
THE JUICE STAINS REALLY BAD, SO...
AND THE RED LIPS...
IT'S SO TASTY!

PART 50

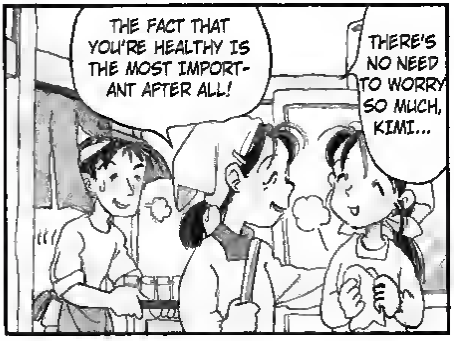
OH GOSH, PIPPIRA!!
CHOMP CHOMP
OH, YOU ARE?
YUM!! BUT MAN, I'M THIRSTY NOW.
PLOOSH PLOOSH
Jihanki
PIPPIRA IS NOT TERRIFICALLY GOOD AT TAKING BATHS.
GOOD BOY! WHAT A GOOD BOY YOU ARE!
Jihanki
HOO
EVEN SO, THERE ARE TIMES WHEN YOU LOOK AT HIM AND FEEL PRETTY JEALOUS.
THERE HAS GOT TO BE SOME-THING ELSE THERE!!
THIS GRASS IS SOUR!
OH GOOD! THERE WAS SOME!!
CHI CHI CHI

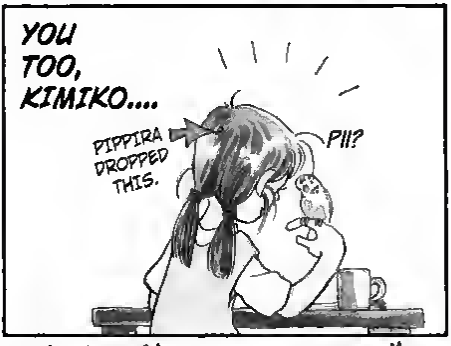
OH NO! SUNDAY OF NEXT WEEK!

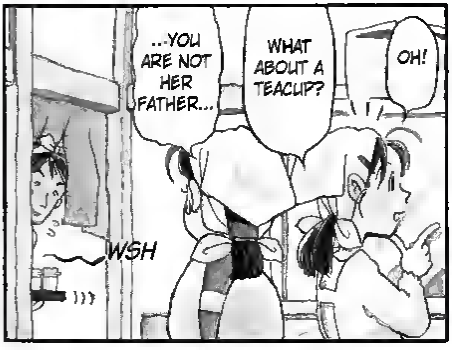

SAUCE FROM A MONTH AGO.
CHERRY JUICE FROM TODAY
KETCHUP FROM TWO WEEKS AGO.

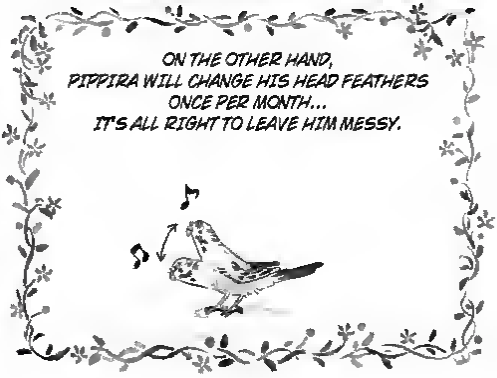

IT'S TOUGH!
SHOULD I GET FLOWERS OR SOMETHING?
I'M ALWAYS REALLY WORRIED ABOUT FATHER'S DAY EVERY YEAR...
WSH

IF YOU HAD A NICE LOVER, THEY'D PREEN YOUR FEATHERS FOR YOU, I BET. POOR PIPPIRA.
LOVE STRUCK


THE FACT THAT YOU'RE HEALTHY IS THE MOST IMPORTANT AFTER ALL!
THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY SO MUCH, KIMI...


YOU TOO, KIMIKO....
PIPPIRA DROPPED THIS.
PII?

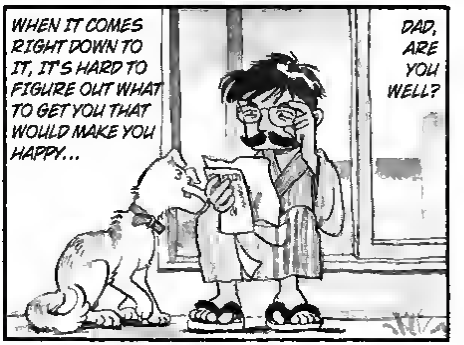

...YOU ARE NOT HER FATHER...
WHAT ABOUT A TEACUP?
OH!
WSH


ON THE OTHER HAND, PIPPIRA WILL CHANGE HIS HEAD FEATHERS ONCE PER MONTH... IT'S ALL RIGHT TO LEAVE HIM MESSY.

BUT I THINK EVERYONE'S HAD A DREAM LIKE THAT...
I WISH I HAD WINGS...

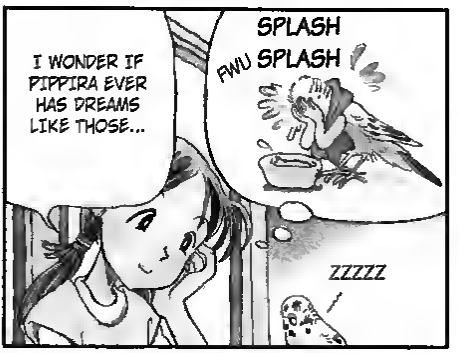
HO?
HERE'S A LETTER FROM KIMIKO, DAD.

WOO HOO

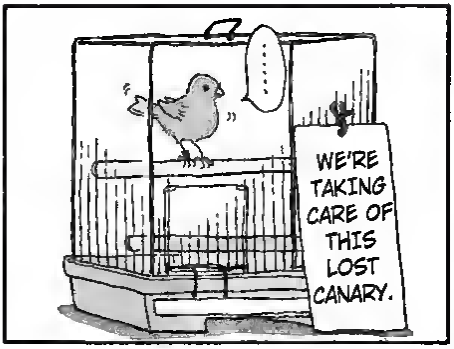

WHEN IT COMES RIGHT DOWN TO IT, IT'S HARD TO FIGURE OUT WHAT TO GET YOU THAT WOULD MAKE YOU HAPPY...
DAD, ARE YOU WELL?

CHOMP CHOMP

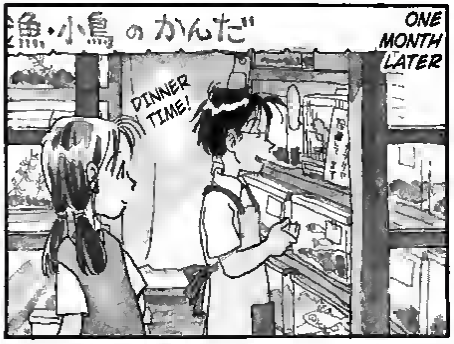
OH! BUT DON'T EAT TOO MUCH...!
AW, JEEZ, KIMIKO...
TO DAD FROM KIMI
YOU CAN HAVE THIS WITH A DRINK WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE IT.


I WONDER IF PIPPIRA EVER HAS DREAMS LIKE THOSE...
SPLASH
FWU SPLASH
ZZZZZ

AND ONLY ONE!!
FRIED SQUID!
SNIFF
SNIIIIFF

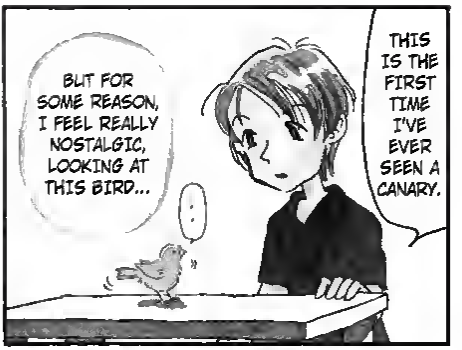

WE'RE TAKING CARE OF THIS LOST CANARY.

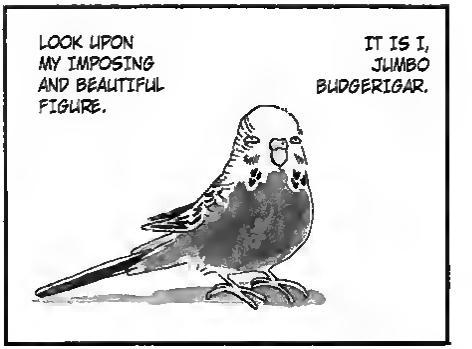
NOPE.
小鳥のかんだ
YOU DIDN'T FIND ITS OWNER YET?
WE'RE TAKING CARE OF THIS LOST CANARY


魚・小鳥のかんだ
ONE MONTH LATER
DINNER TIME!

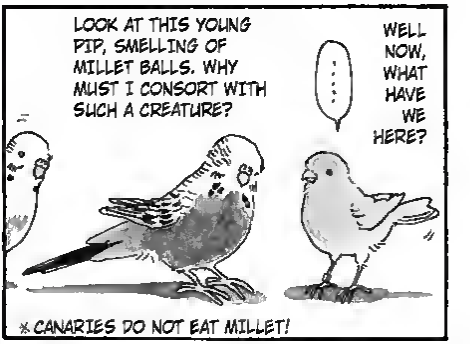
かんだ
TWO MONTHS LATER
TSUNA .. MAYBE YOU SHOULD DO THAT IN PRIVATE...
IF THEY CAME NOW TO GET KANAKO, I WOULDN'T LET HER GO!!
... KANAKO ?

PART 51

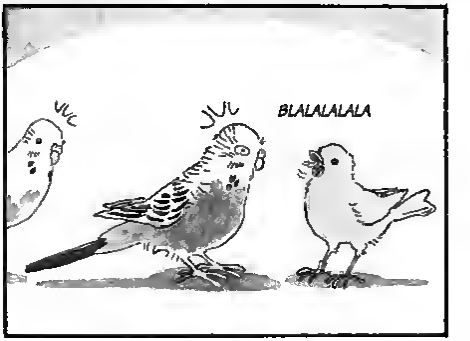

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER SEEN A CANARY.
BUT FOR SOME REASON, I FEEL REALLY NOSTALGIC, LOOKING AT THIS BIRD...


LOOK UPON MY IMPOSING AND BEAUTIFUL FIGURE.
IT IS I, JUMBO BUDGERIGAR.

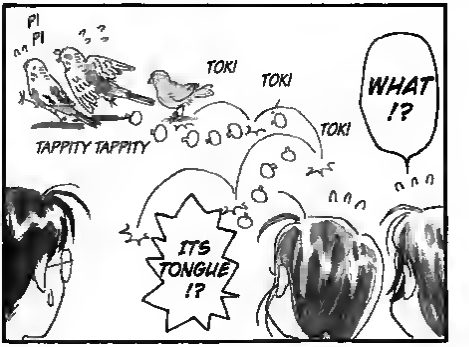
PAPAAA I WANNA GET A BIRD!
HAHAHA, OKAY!

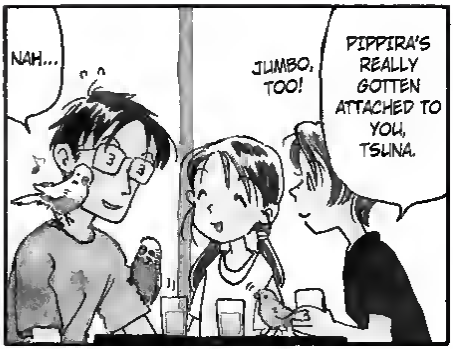

LOOK AT THIS YOUNG PIP, SMELLING OF MILLET BALLS. WHY MUST I CONSORT WITH SUCH A CREATURE?
WELL NOW, WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
※CANARIES DO NOT EAT MILLET!

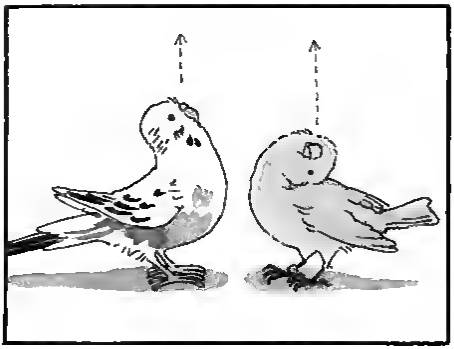
OOH.... .....
HERE!
YOU BROTHER AND YOU CAN TAKE CARE OF THIS GUY!
.....
MRK
WARK


JUJU
BLALALALALA

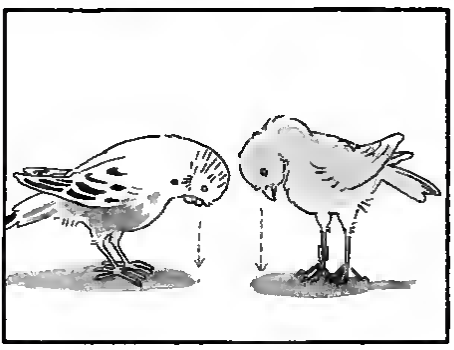
OH, COME ON... IT'S TALK OF LONG AGO...
I KEPT THINKING "IT'S KIND OF WEIRD..." AND IT WAS BECAUSE IT WASN'T A BIRD LIKE THIS!!
THAT'S RIGHT! THIS IS THE KIND OF BIRD I REALLY WANTED!!!
CHI CHI CHI

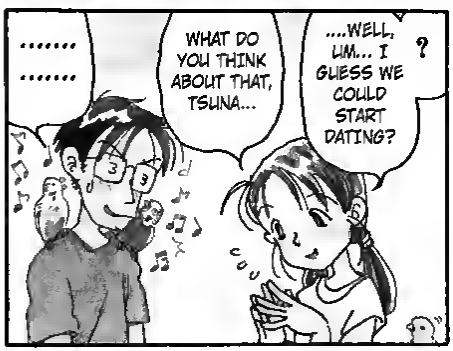

PI PI
TOKI
TOKI
TOKI
TAPPITY TAPPITY
WHAT !?
IT'S TONGUE !?

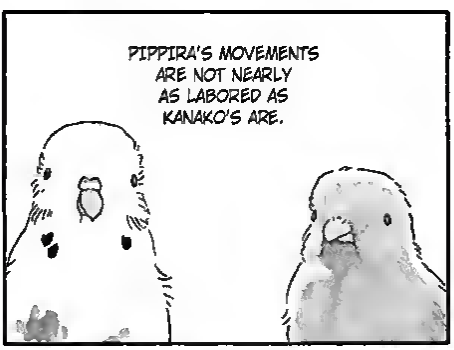

NAH...
JUMBO, TOO!
PIPPIRA'S REALLY GOTTEN ATTACHED TO YOU, TSUNA.

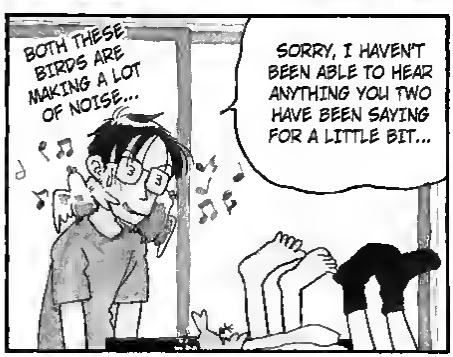


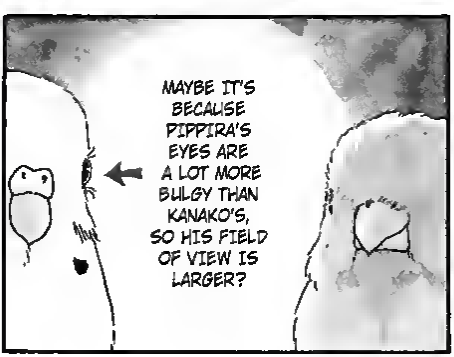
THIS IS SO SUDDEN, WE'RE NOT EVEN DATING OR ANYTHING...
WH-WHAT!?
WHY DON'T YOU TWO JUST GET MARRIED ALREADY!?

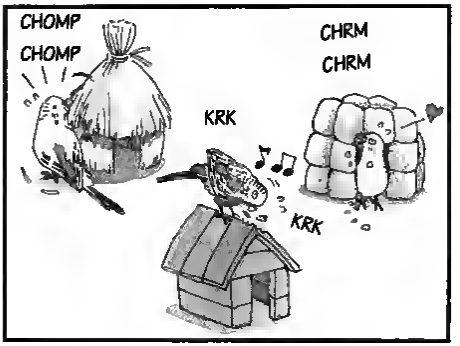


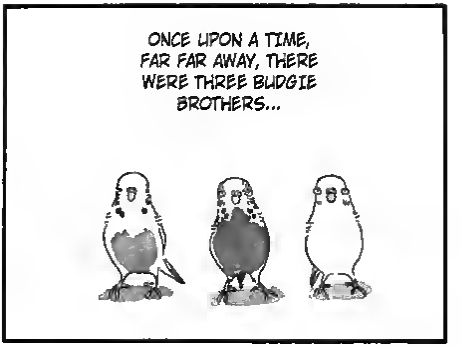

.....
.....
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT, TSUNA...
....WELL, UM... I GUESS WE COULD START DATING?


PIPPIRA'S MOVEMENTS ARE NOT NEARLY AS LABORED AS KANAKO'S ARE.

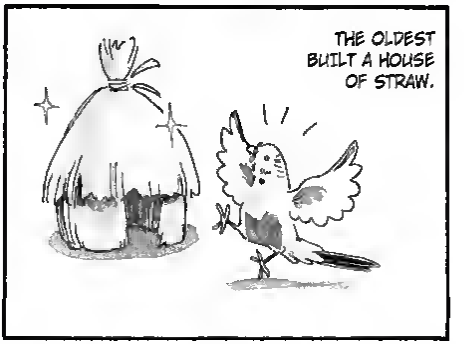

BOTH THESE BIRDS ARE MAKING A LOT OF NOISE...
SORRY, I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO HEAR ANYTHING YOU TWO HAVE BEEN SAYING FOR A LITTLE BIT...

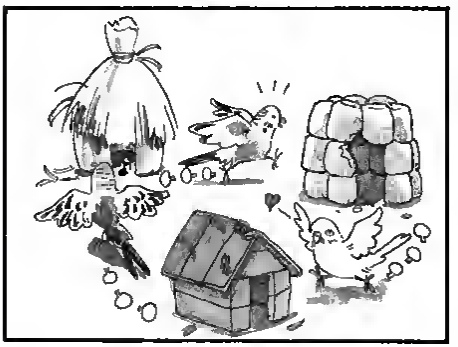

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE PIPPIRA'S EYES ARE A LOT MORE BULGY THAN KANAKO'S, SO HIS FIELD OF VIEW IS LARGER?


CHOMP
CHOMP
CHRM
CHRM
KRK
KRK

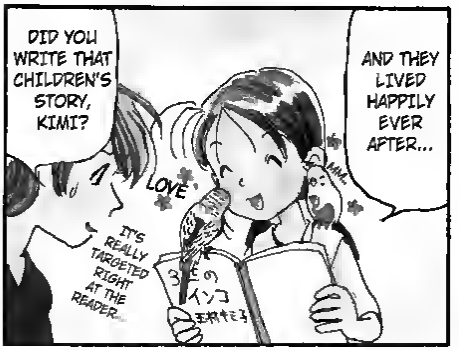

ONCE UPON A TIME, FAR FAR AWAY, THERE WERE THREE BUDGIE BROTHERS...

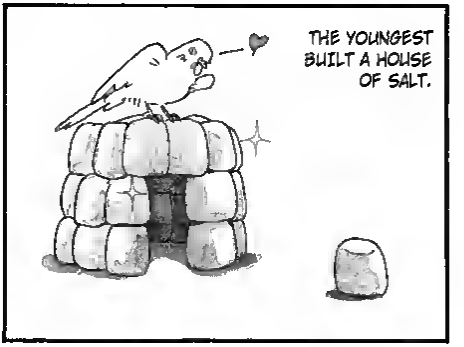
「……

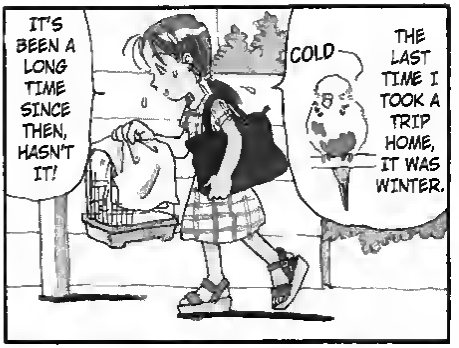

THE OLDEST BUILT A HOUSE OF STRAW.

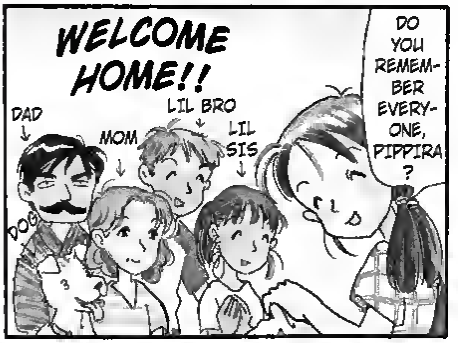


THE MIDDLE BROTHER BUILT A HOUSE OF WOOD.


DID YOU WRITE THAT CHILDREN'S STORY, KIMI?
AND THEY LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER...
LOVE
IT'S REALLY TARGETED RIGHT AT THE READER.


THE YOUNGEST BUILT A HOUSE OF SALT.


IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE THEN, HASN'T IT!
COLD
THE LAST TIME I TOOK A TRIP HOME, IT WAS WINTER.

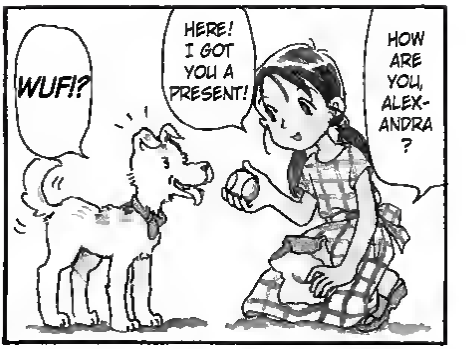

WELCOME HOME!!
DAD
MOM
LIL BRO
LIL SIS
DOG
DO YOU REMEMBER EVERYONE, PIPPIRA?

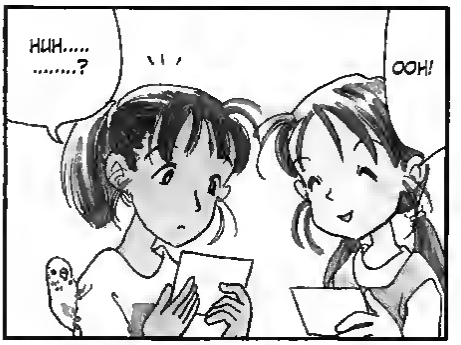
PANT PANT

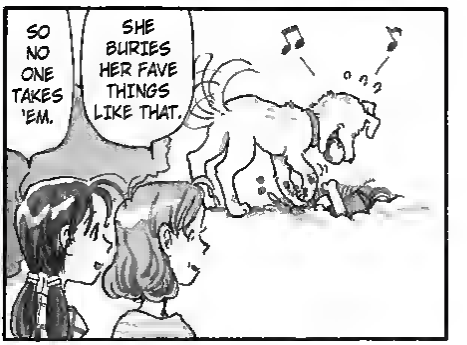
IT'S PIP-PIRA !!
IS THIS A BUDGIE TOO?
UH, NICE TO MEET YOU...
NO ONE REMEMBERED HIM...
HOT

PART 52

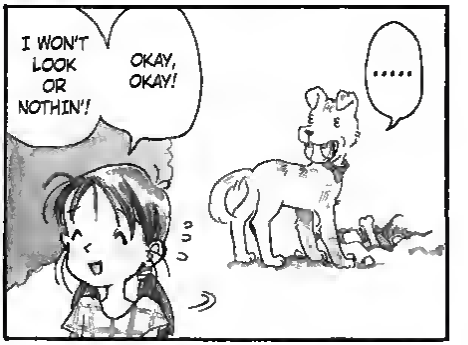
I TOOK PICS.
I WENT TO THE OCEAN!
WOW, YOU SURE GOT TAN, TOJIKO

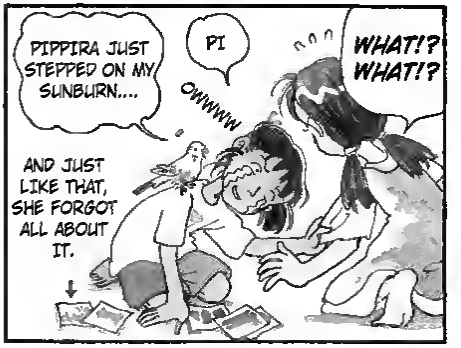

WUF!?
HERE! I GOT YOU A PRESENT!
HOW ARE YOU, ALEX-ANDRA ?

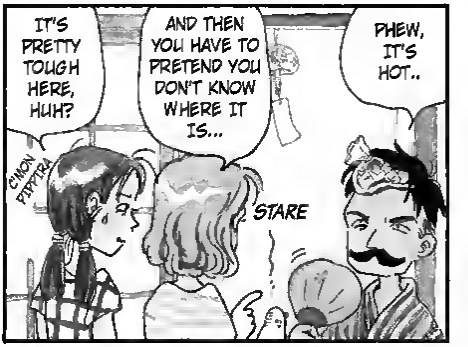

HUH..... .....?
OOH!

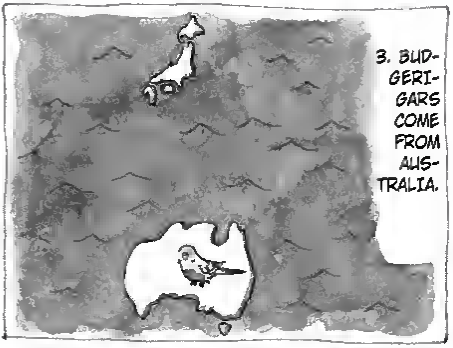

SO NO ONE TAKES 'EM.
SHE BURIES HER FAVE THINGS LIKE THAT.

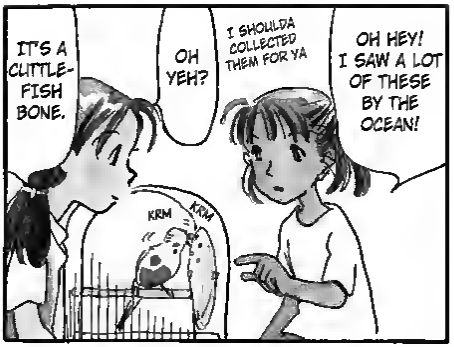
キャ AAAAAAAUGH!!
TOJIKO MAY HAVE SEEN A GHOST IN HER PHOTO.

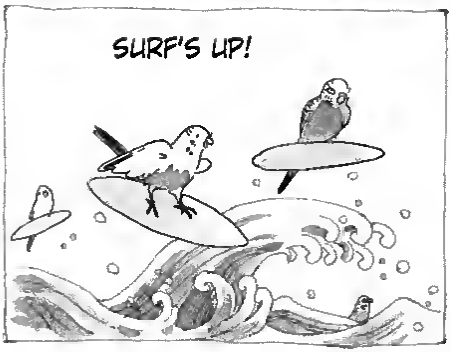

I WON'T LOOK OR NOTHIN'!
OKAY, OKAY!
.....

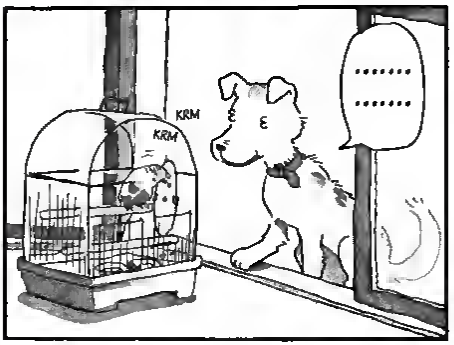

PIPPIRA JUST STEPPED ON MY SUNBURN....
PI
OWWWW
WHAT!? WHAT!?
AND JUST LIKE THAT, SHE FORGOT ALL ABOUT IT.

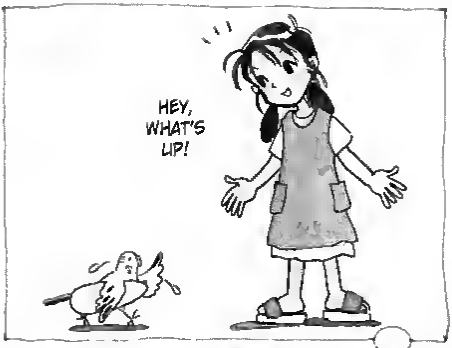

IT'S PRETTY TOUGH HERE, HUH?
AND THEN YOU HAVE TO PRETEND YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE IT IS...
PHEW, IT'S HOT..
C'MON PIPPIRA
STARE

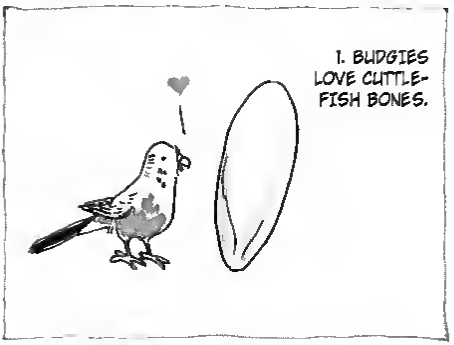

3. BUDGERIGARS COME FROM AUSTRALIA.

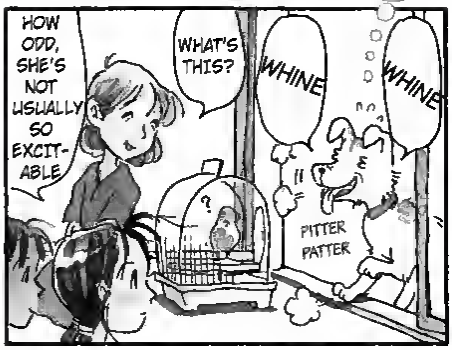

IT'S A CUTTLEFISH BONE.
OH YEH?
I SHOULDA COLLECTED THEM FOR YA
OH HEY! I SAW A LOT OF THESE BY THE OCEAN!
KRM
KRM

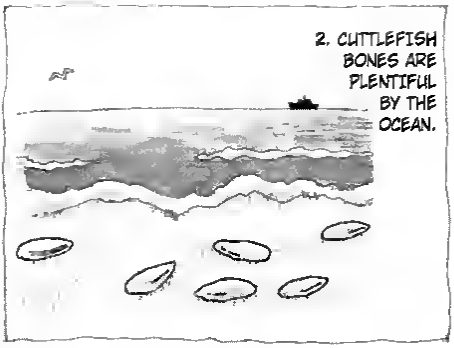

SURF'S UP!

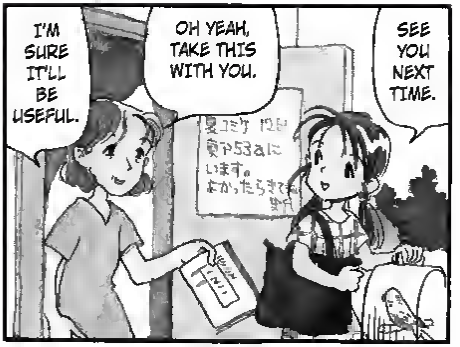

KRM
KRM
.....
.....

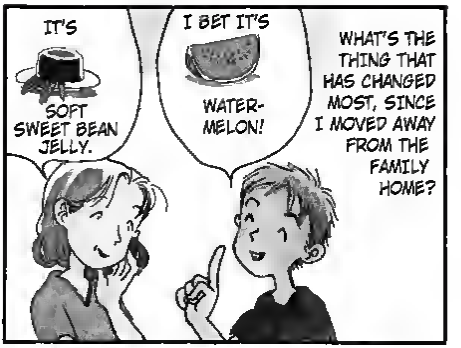

HEY, WHAT'S UP!

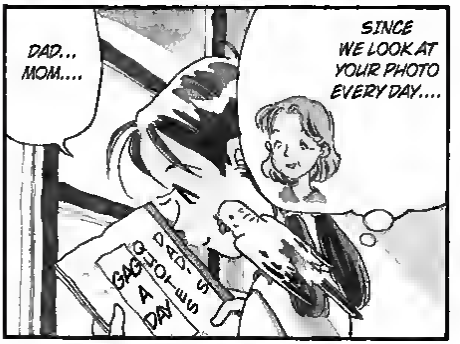

1. BUDGIES LOVE CUTTLEFISH BONES.


HOW ODD, SHE'S NOT USUALLY SO EXCITABLE
WHAT'S THIS?
WHINE
WHINE
PITTER PATTER


2. CUTTLEFISH BONES ARE PLENTIFUL BY THE OCEAN.

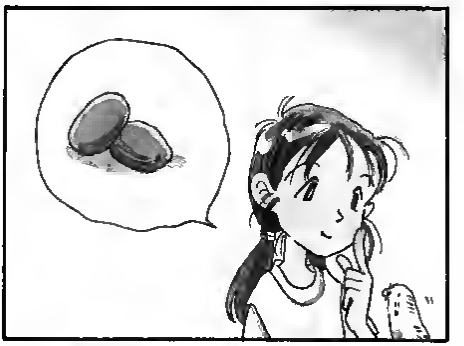

I'M SURE IT'LL BE USEFUL.
OH YEAH, TAKE THIS WITH YOU.
SEE YOU NEXT TIME.


IT'S
SOFT SWEET BEAN JELLY.
I BET IT'S
WATER-MELON!
WHAT'S THE THING THAT HAS CHANGED MOST, SINCE I MOVED AWAY FROM THE FAMILY HOME?

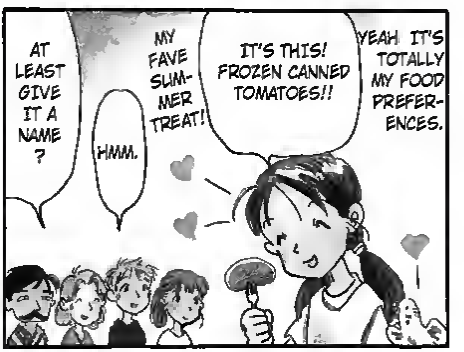

DAD... MOM....
SINCE WE LOOK AT YOUR PHOTO EVERY DAY....

IT'S GOTTA BE SHAVED ICE.
WHAT ABOUT AGAR STRIPS?

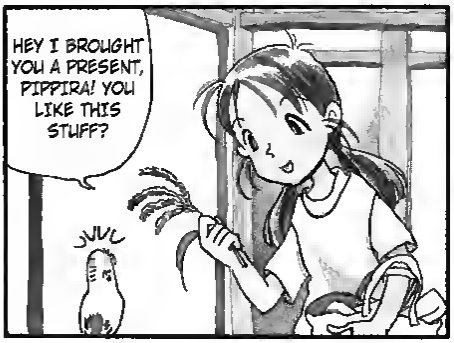
IT'S WORK-ING!
OOH!!
WHOOOSH

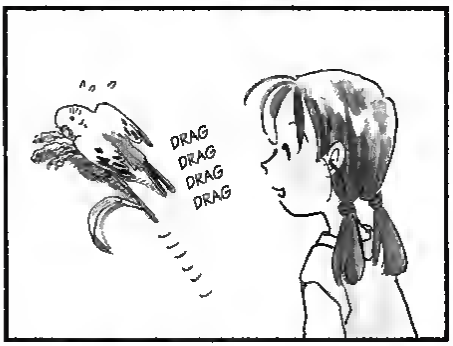


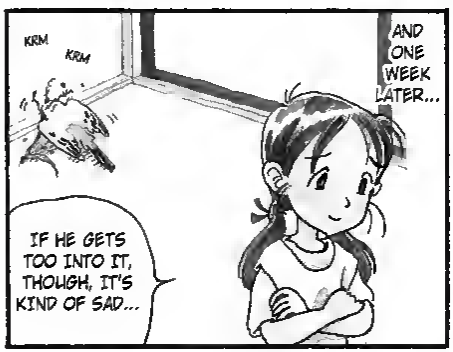
KIMIKO'S FULL-ON MAKEUP FACE REALLY WORKS...!
SHIVER
BRR!!
SHIVER
SHAKE SHAKE


AT LEAST GIVE IT A NAME?
HMM.
MY FAVE SUM-MER TREAT!
IT'S THIS! FROZEN CANNED TOMATOES!!
YEAH IT'S TOTALLY MY FOOD PREFER-ENCES.

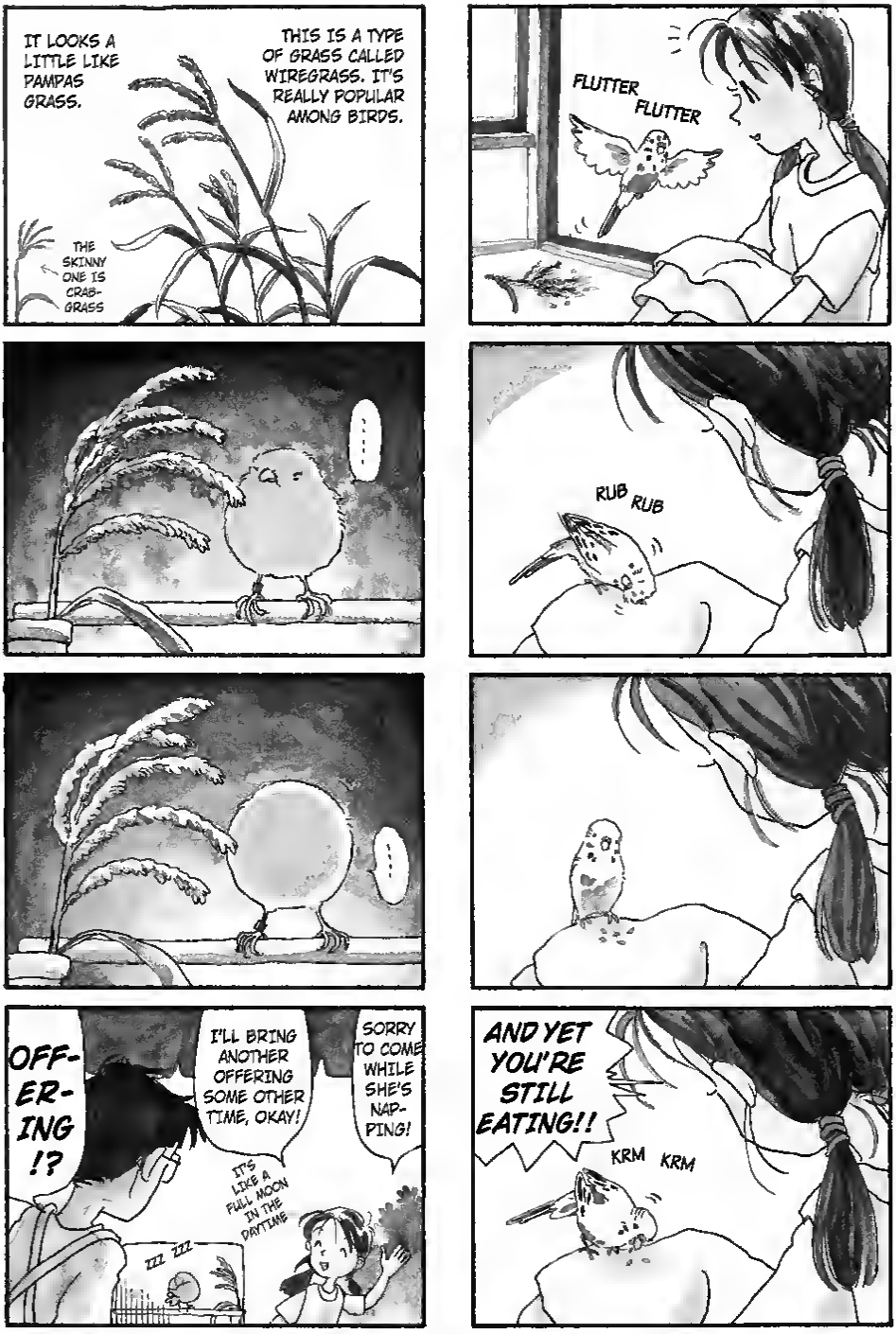
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP

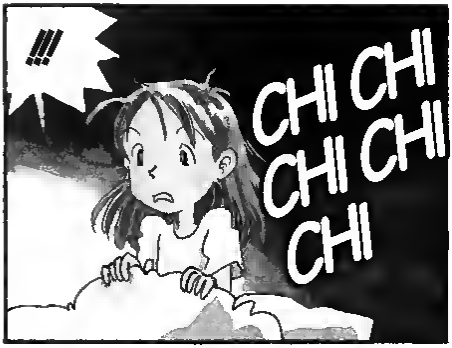

HEY I BROUGHT YOU A PRESENT, PIPPIRA! YOU LIKE THIS STUFF?
JJUU

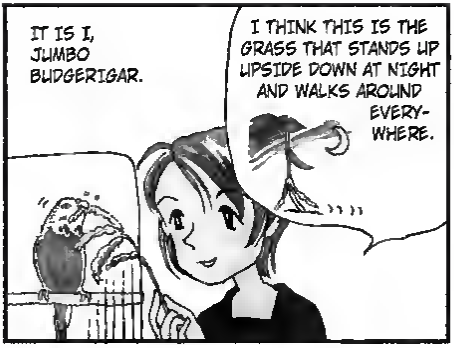

DRAG
DRAG
DRAG
DRAG

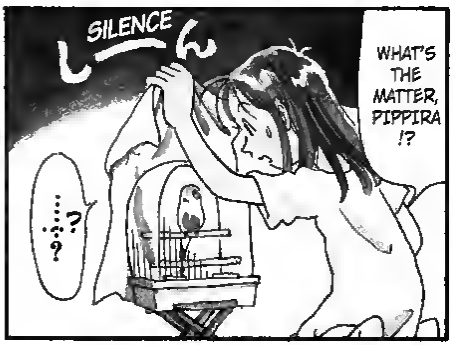

KRM
KRM
AND ONE WEEK LATER...
IF HE GETS TOO INTO IT, THOUGH, IT'S KIND OF SAD...

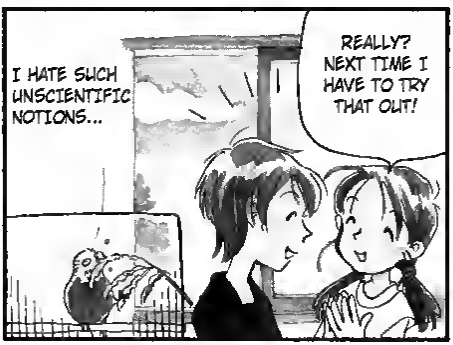
PART 53


IT LOOKS A LITTLE LIKE PAMPAS GRASS.
THIS IS A TYPE OF GRASS CALLED WIREGRASS. IT'S REALLY POPULAR AMONG BIRDS.
THE SKINNY ONE IS CRAB-GRASS
FLUTTER FLUTTER
RUB RUB
OFF-ER-ING!?
I'LL BRING ANOTHER OFFERING SOME OTHER TIME, OKAY!
SORRY TO COME WHILE SHE'S NAP-PING!
IT'S LIKE A FULL MOON IN THE DAYTIME
ZZZ ZZZ
AND YET YOU'RE STILL EATING!!
KRM KRM

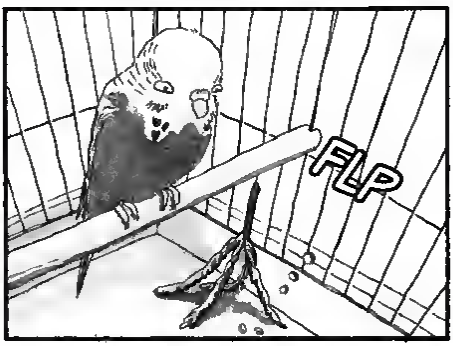

CHI CHI
CHI CHI
CHI


IT IS I, JUMBO BUDGERIGAR.
I THINK THIS IS THE GRASS THAT STANDS UP UPSIDE DOWN AT NIGHT AND WALKS AROUND EVERY-WHERE.

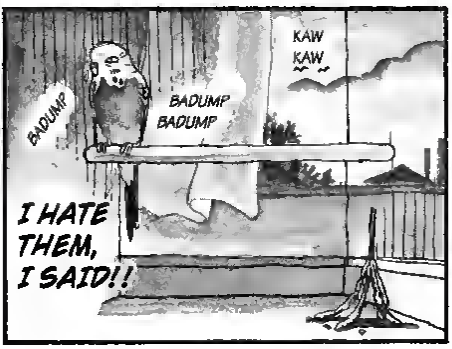

SILENCE
WHAT'S THE MATTER, PIPPIRA !?
.....?
?

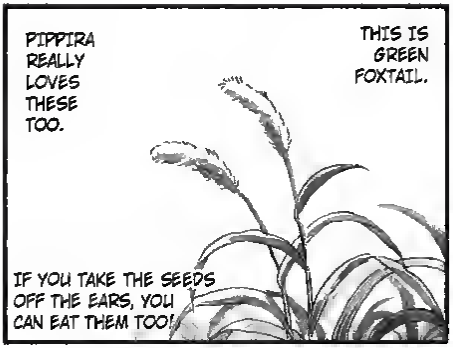

I HATE SUCH UNSCIENTIFIC NOTIONS...
REALLY? NEXT TIME I HAVE TO TRY THAT OUT!

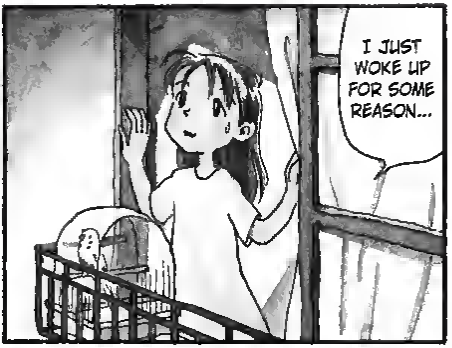
CHI CHI
CHI CHI
CHI CHI

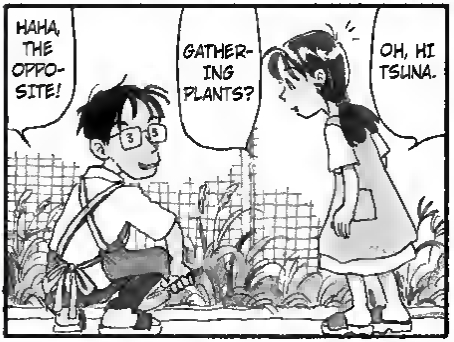

FLP

SILENCE
WHAT'S THE MATTER, PIPPIRA !!??
TWO SECONDS LEFT BEFORE KIMIKO LETS OUT HER OWN SCREAM

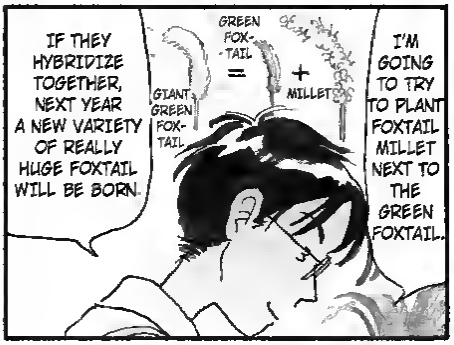

KAW KAW
BADUMP
BADUMP BADUMP
I HATE THEM, I SAID!!


PIPPIRA REALLY LOVES THESE TOO.
THIS IS GREEN FOXTAIL.
IF YOU TAKE THE SEEDS OFF THE EARS, YOU CAN EAT THEM TOO!

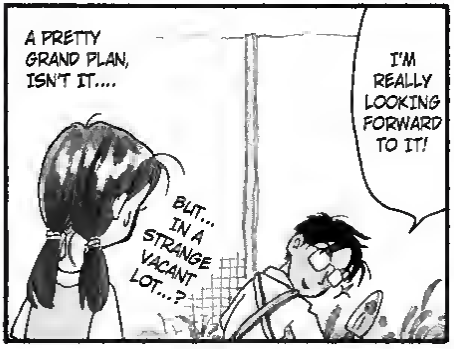

I JUST WOKE UP FOR SOME REASON...

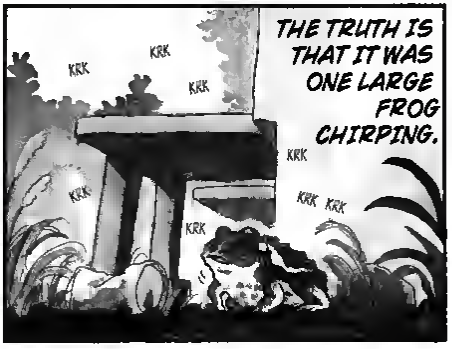

HAHA, THE OPPO-SITE!
GATHER-ING PLANTS?
OH, HI TSUNA.

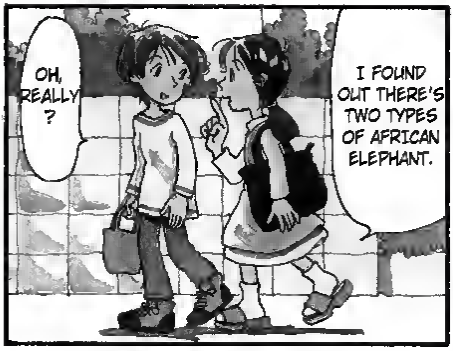
IT'S ALREADY FALL...
KRK
KRK
KRK
KRK

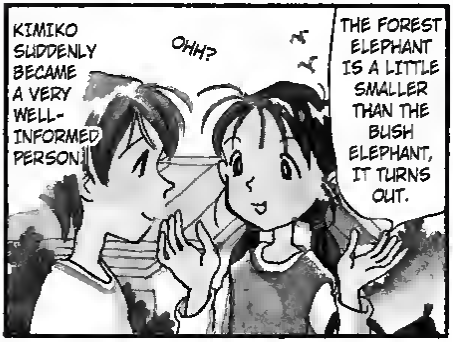

IF THEY HYBRIDIZE TOGETHER, NEXT YEAR A NEW VARIETY OF REALLY HUGE FOXTAIL WILL BE BORN.
GREEN FOX-TAIL
=
GIANT GREEN FOX-TAIL
+
MILLET
I'M GOING TO TRY TO PLANT FOXTAIL MILLET NEXT TO THE GREEN FOXTAIL.

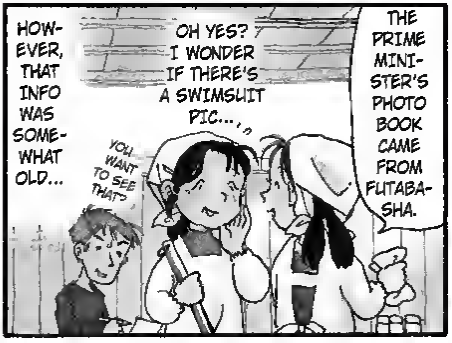
ALL THE LITTLE BUGS ARE CHIRPING.
...NOPE
KRK
KRK
KRK
KRK

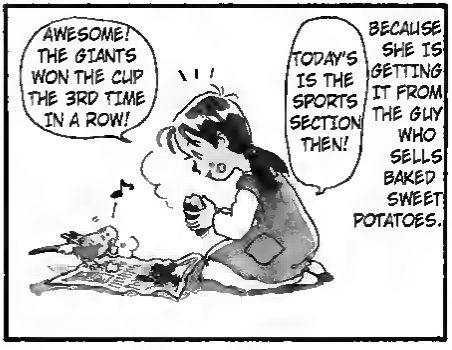

A PRETTY GRAND PLAN, ISN'T IT....
I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO IT!
BUT... IN A STRANGE VACANT LOT...?


THE TRUTH IS THAT IT WAS ONE LARGE FROG CHIRPING.
KRK
KRK
KRK
KRK
KRK
KRK
KRK
KRK

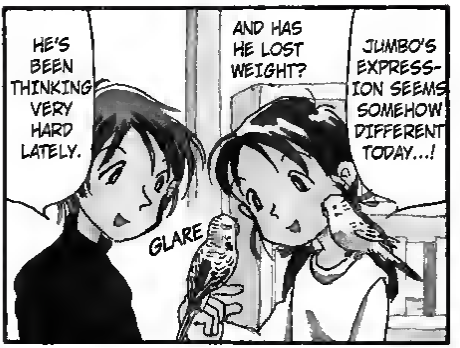

OH, REALLY ?
I FOUND OUT THERE'S TWO TYPES OF AFRICAN ELEPHANT.

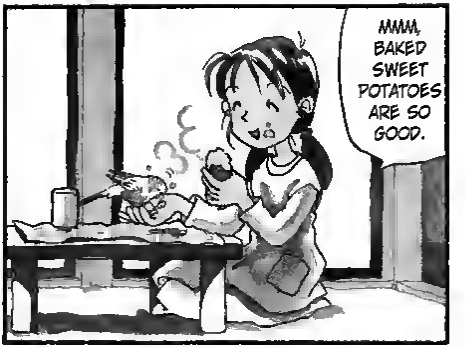

KIMIKO SUDDENLY BECAME A VERY WELL-INFORMED PERSON.
OHH?
THE FOREST ELEPHANT IS A LITTLE SMALLER THAN THE BUSH ELEPHANT, IT TURNS OUT.

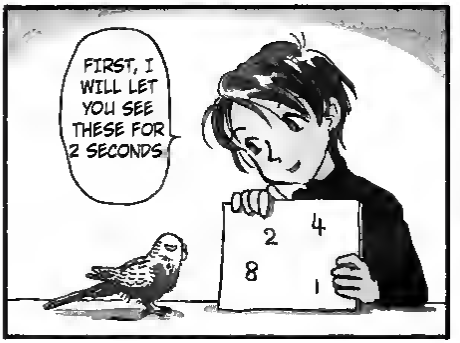

HOW-EVER, THAT INFO WAS SOME-WHAT OLD...
OH YES? I WONDER IF THERE'S A SWIMSUIT PIC...
YOU WANT TO SEE THAT?
THE PRIME MINI-STER'S PHOTO BOOK CAME FROM FUTABA-SHA.

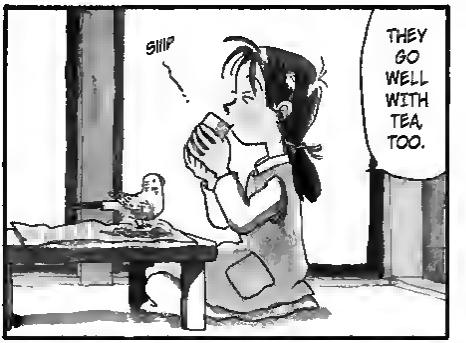

AWESOME! THE GIANTS WON THE CUP THE 3RD TIME IN A ROW!
TODAY'S IS THE SPORTS SECTION THEN!
BECAUSE SHE IS GETTING IT FROM THE GUY WHO SELLS BAKED SWEET POTATOES.

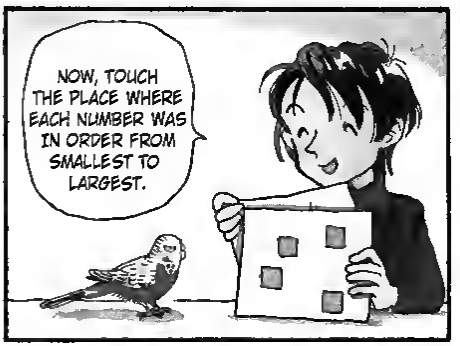
PART 54

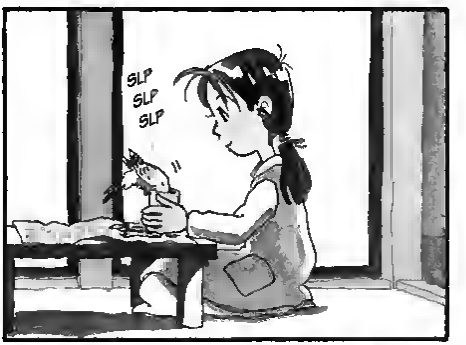

HE'S BEEN THINKING VERY HARD LATELY.
AND HAS HE LOST WEIGHT?
JUMBO'S EXPRESSION SEEMS SOMEHOW DIFFERENT TODAY...!
GLARE

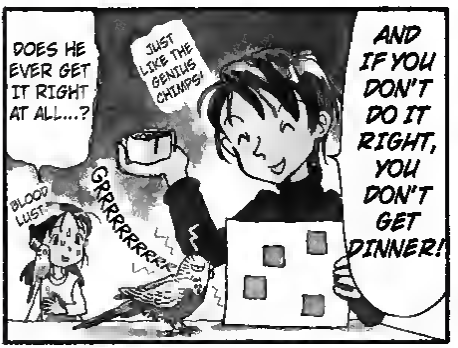

MMM, BAKED SWEET POTATOES ARE SO GOOD.

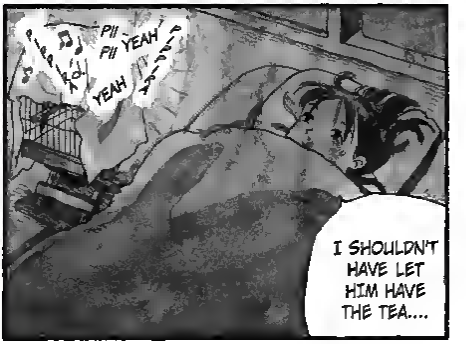

FIRST, I WILL LET YOU SEE THESE FOR 2 SECONDS
2
4
8
1

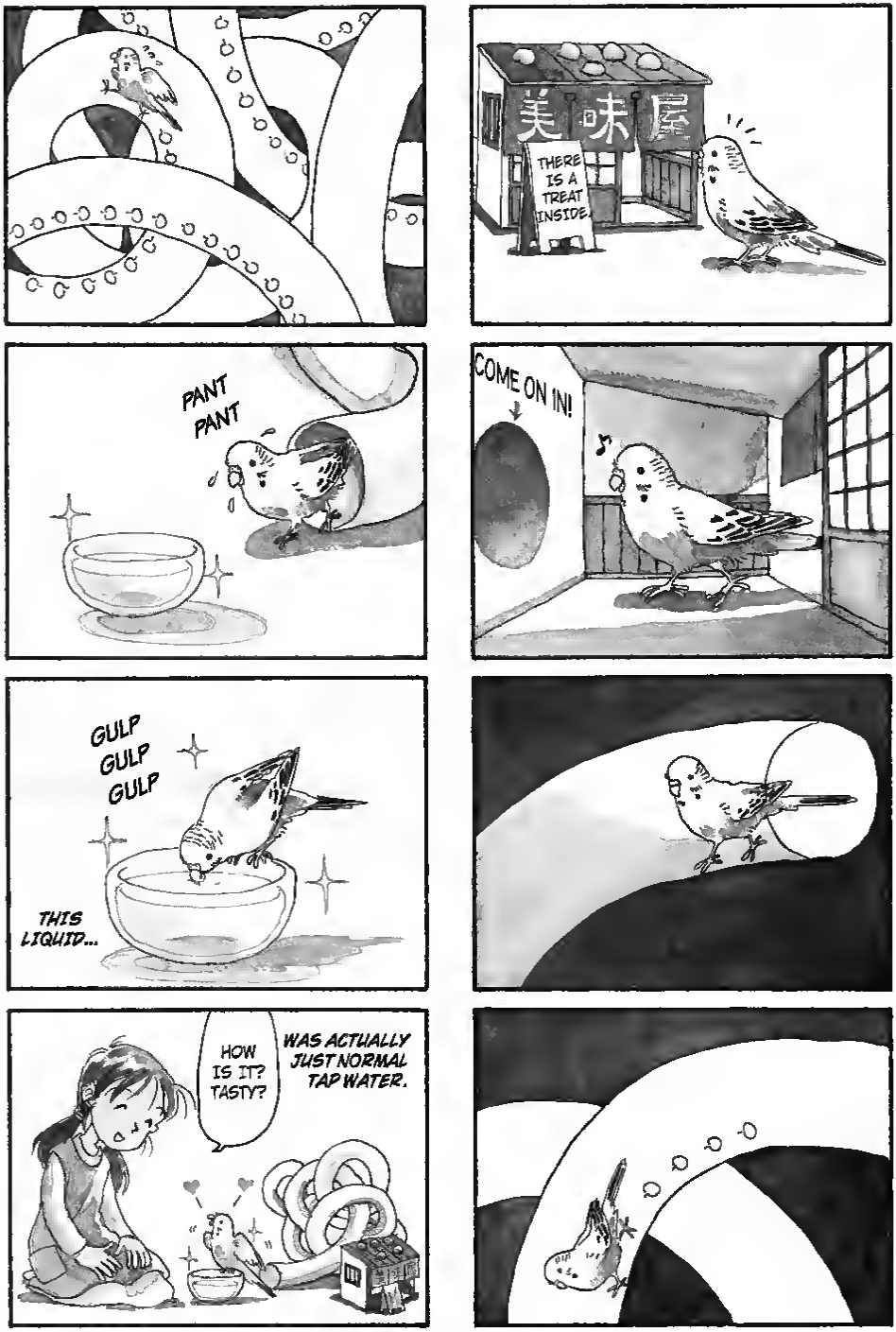

SIIIP
THEY GO WELL WITH TEA, TOO.


NOW, TOUCH THE PLACE WHERE EACH NUMBER WAS IN ORDER FROM SMALLEST TO LARGEST.


SLP
SLP
SLP


DOES HE EVER GET IT RIGHT AT ALL...?
JUST LIKE THE GENIUS CHIMPS!
BLOOD LUST
GRRRRRRRRR
AND IF YOU DON'T DO IT RIGHT, YOU DON'T GET DINNER!

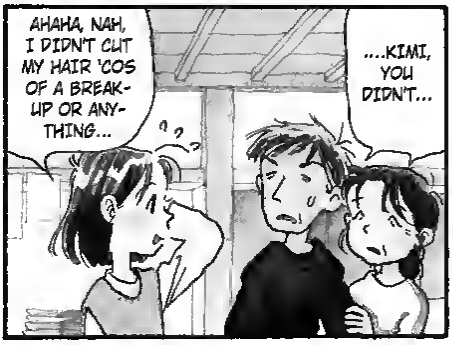

PII PII YEAH YEAH
I SHOULDN'T HAVE LET HIM HAVE THE TEA....

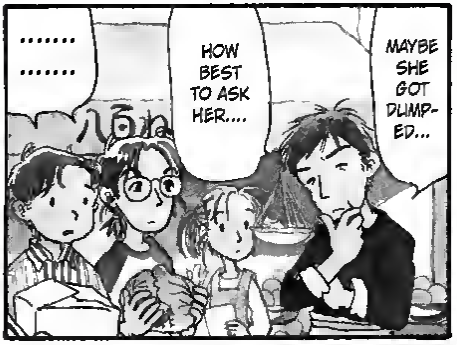

美味屋
THERE IS A TREAT INSIDE.
PANT PANT
COME ON IN!
GULP GULP GULP
THIS LIQUID...
HOW IS IT? TASTY?
WAS ACTUALLY JUST NORMAL TAP WATER.

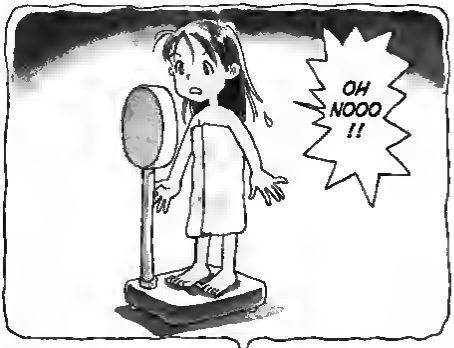
いのうえ食堂
IT'S BEEN TWENTY YEARS SINCE WE STARTED THIS DINER...

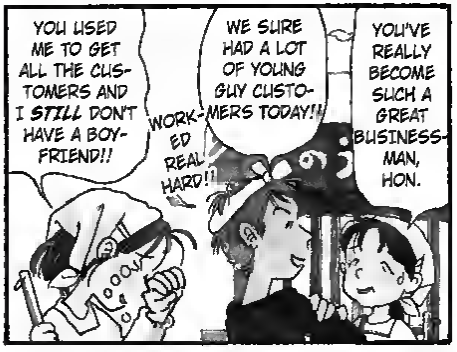
GOOD MOR-NIIING!!

YEAH?
MAN, KIMI CUT HER HAIR SHORT...

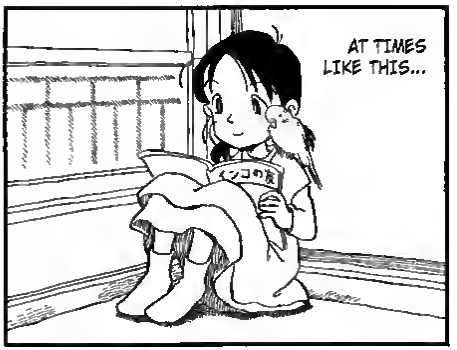

AHAHA, NAH, I DIDN'T CUT MY HAIR 'COS OF A BREAK-UP OR ANY-THING...
....KIMI, YOU DIDN'T...

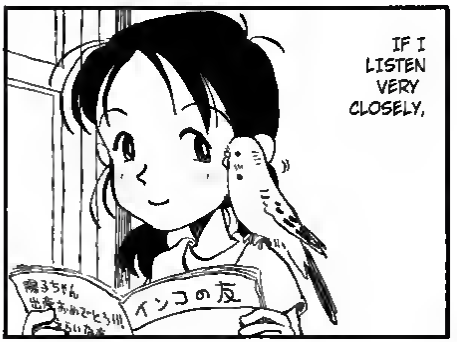

.....
.....
HOW BEST TO ASK HER....
MAYBE SHE GOT DUMP-ED...

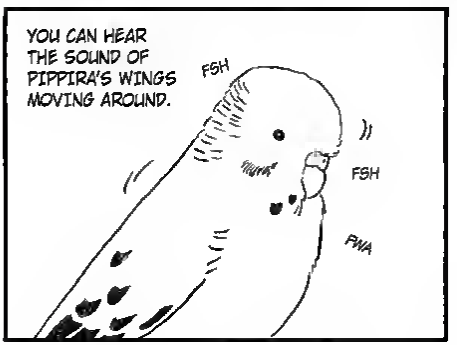

OH NOOO !!

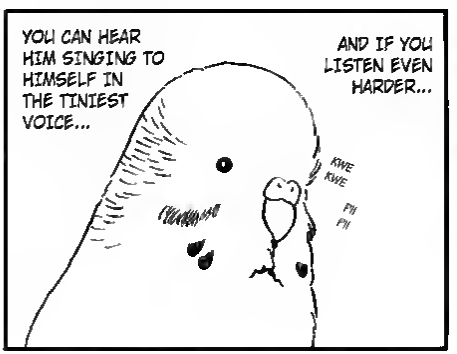

YOU USED ME TO GET ALL THE CUS-TOMERS AND I STILL DON'T HAVE A BOY-FRIEND!!
WE SURE HAD A LOT OF YOUNG GUY CUSTO-MERS TODAY!!
WORK-ED REAL HARD!!
YOU'VE REALLY BECOME SUCH A GREAT BUSINESS-MAN, HON.

THAT'S REALLY SAD, KIMI!!
I BETTER START TO EXERCISE...
I THOUGHT MAYBE IT WOULD MAKE ME LESS HEAVY....

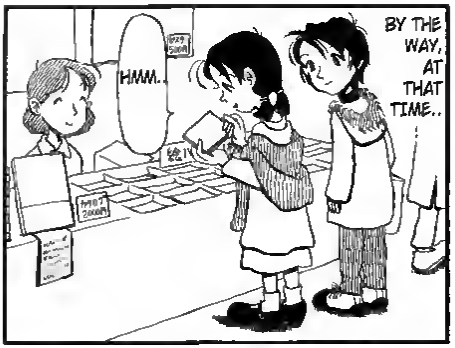

AT TIMES LIKE THIS...
インコの友

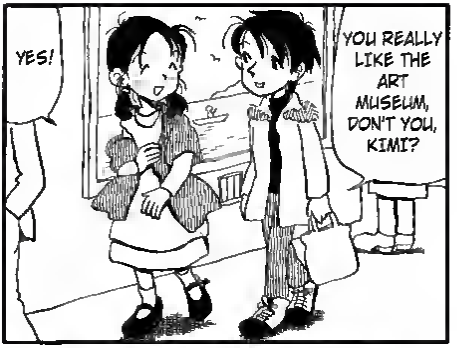

IF I LISTEN VERY CLOSELY,
インコの友

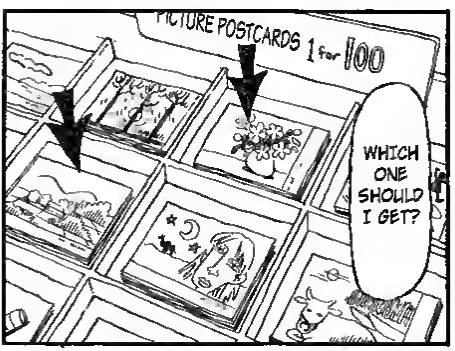

YOU CAN HEAR THE SOUND OF PIPPIRA'S WINGS MOVING AROUND.
FSH
FSH
PWA

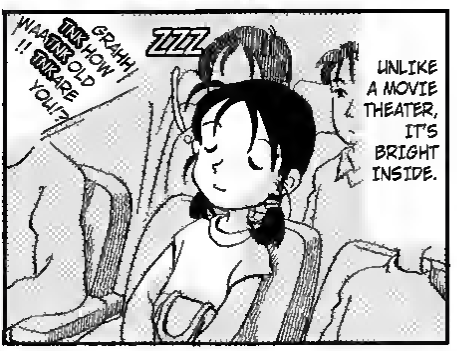

YOU CAN HEAR HIM SINGING TO HIMSELF IN THE TINIEST VOICE...
AND IF YOU LISTEN EVEN HARDER...
KWE KWE
PI PI

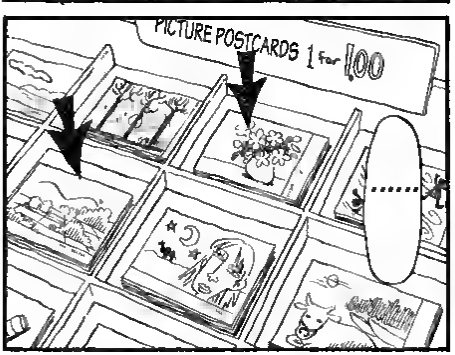
PART 55


HMM..
BY THE WAY, AT THAT TIME..

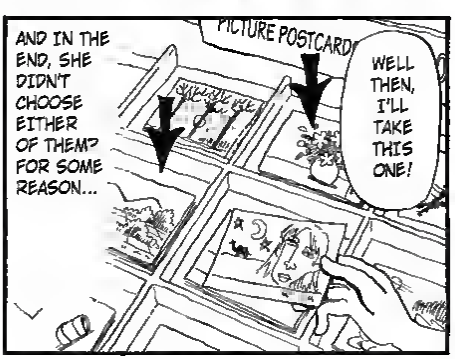

YES!
YOU REALLY LIKE THE ART MUSEUM, DON'T YOU, KIMI?


PICTURE POSTCARDS 1 for 100
WHICH ONE SHOULD I GET?

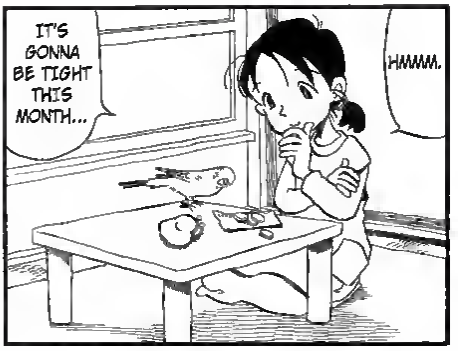

GRAHH! TNK HOW WAAAINK OLD INKARE YOU!?
ZZZZ
UNLIKE A MOVIE THEATER, IT'S BRIGHT INSIDE.

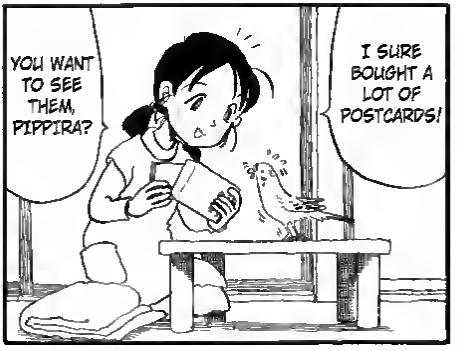

PICTURE POSTCARDS 1 for 100
.....

ZZNX
UNLIKE A CONCERT, YOU CAN TALK ALOUD.


AND IN THE END, SHE DIDN'T CHOOSE EITHER OF THEM? FOR SOME REASON...
PICTURE POSTCARDS
WELL THEN, I'LL TAKE THIS ONE!

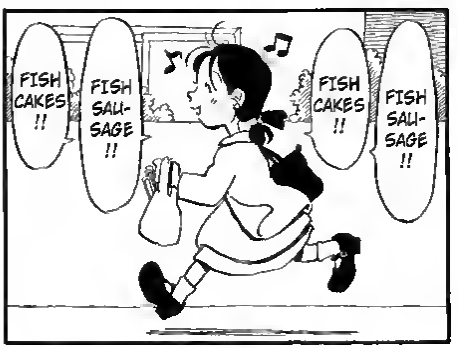
BECAUSE YOU'RE WALKING.
IT'S REALLY HARD TO FALL ASLEEP HERE!

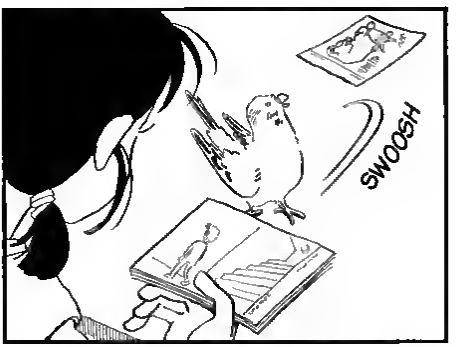

IT'S GONNA BE TIGHT THIS MONTH...
HMMM.

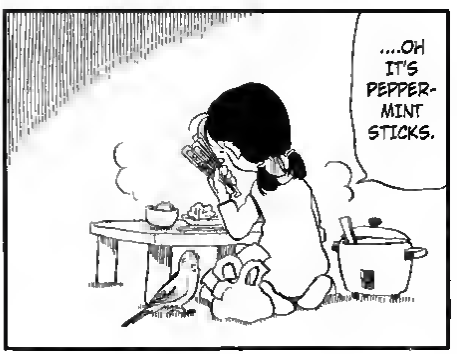

YOU WANT TO SEE THEM, PIPPIRA?
I SURE BOUGHT A LOT OF POSTCARDS!

THANK YOU SO MUCH!
WHA!?
HERE YOU GO, KIMI, YOU CAN HAVE THESE AS A TREAT.

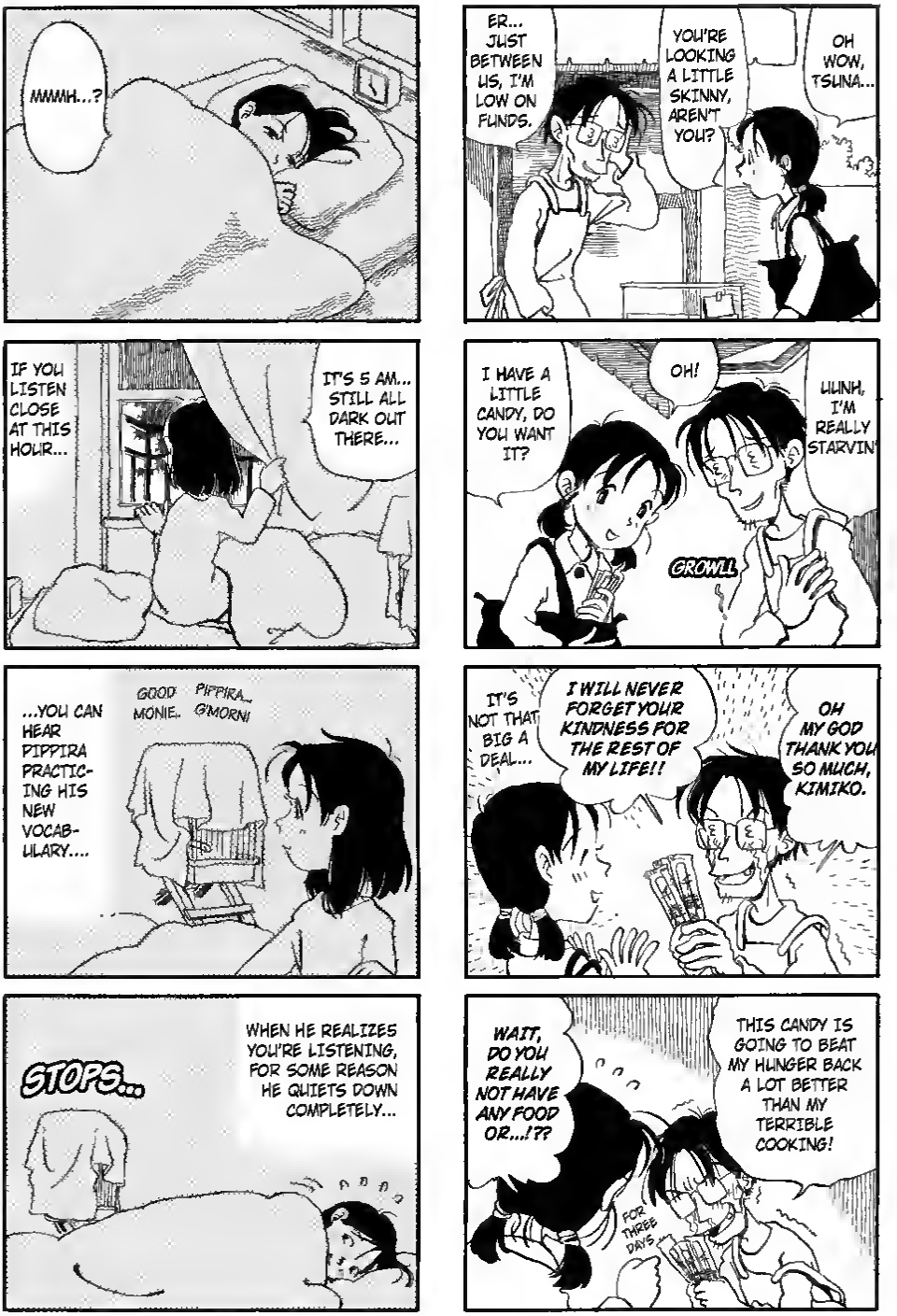
AH!
FSH

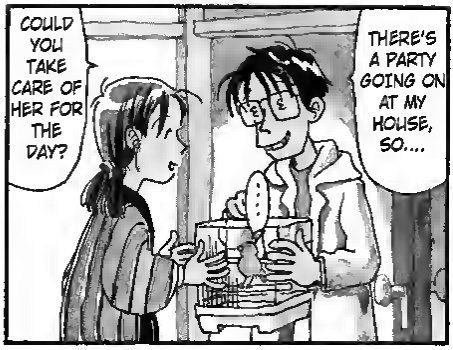

FISH CAKES !!
FISH SAU-SAGE !!
FISH CAKES !!
FISH SAU-SAGE !!

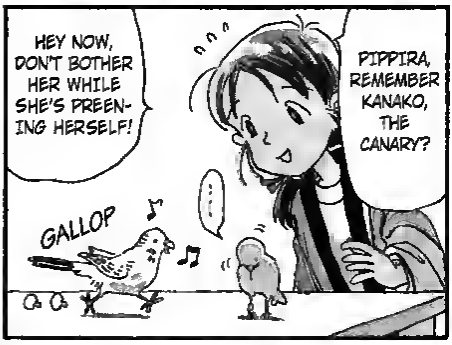

SWOOSH

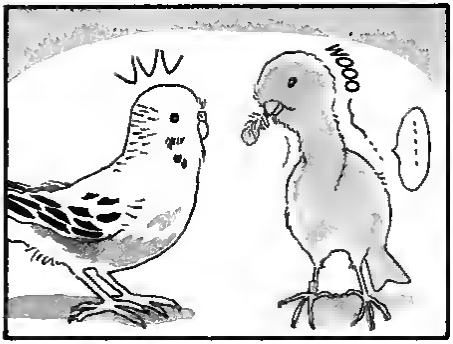

....OH IT'S PEPPER-MINT STICKS.

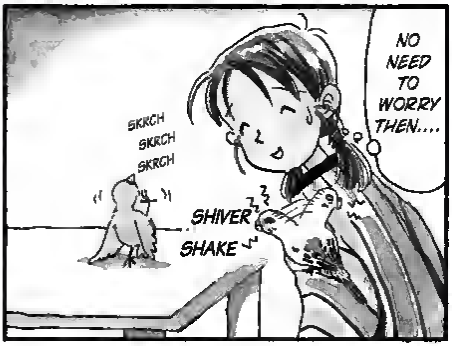
YOU JUST WANTED TO DO THAT, HUH?
SWOOSH
SWOOSH SWOOSH


MMMH...?
ER... JUST BETWEEN US, I'M LOW ON FUNDS.
YOU'RE LOOKING A LITTLE SKINNY, AREN'T YOU?
OH WOW, TSUNA...
IF YOU LISTEN CLOSE AT THIS HOUR...
IT'S 5 AM... STILL ALL DARK OUT THERE...
I HAVE A LITTLE CANDY, DO YOU WANT IT?
OH!
UHNH, I'M REALLY STARVIN'
GROWL
...YOU CAN HEAR PIPPIRA PRACTIC-ING HIS NEW VOCAB-ULARY....
GOOD MONIE..
PIPPIRA... G'MORNI
IT'S NOT THAT BIG A DEAL...
I WILL NEVER FORGET YOUR KINDNESS FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!!
OH MY GOD THANK YOU SO MUCH, KIMIKO.
STOPS...
WHEN HE REALIZES YOU'RE LISTENING, FOR SOME REASON HE QUIETS DOWN COMPLETELY...
WAIT, DO YOU REALLY NOT HAVE ANY FOOD OR...!??
THIS CANDY IS GOING TO BEAT MY HUNGER BACK A LOT BETTER THAN MY TERRIBLE COOKING!
FOR THREE DAYS


COULD YOU TAKE CARE OF HER FOR THE DAY?
THERE'S A PARTY GOING ON AT MY HOUSE, SO....


HEY NOW, DON'T BOTHER HER WHILE SHE'S PREEN-ING HERSELF!
PIPPIRA, REMEMBER KANAKO, THE CANARY?
GALLOP

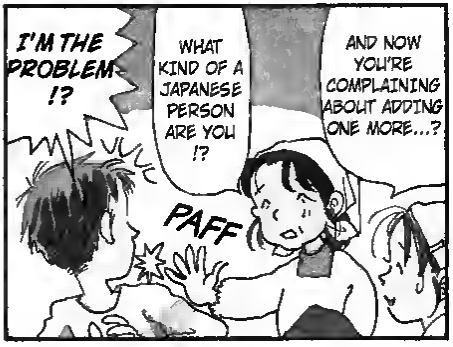

WOOO

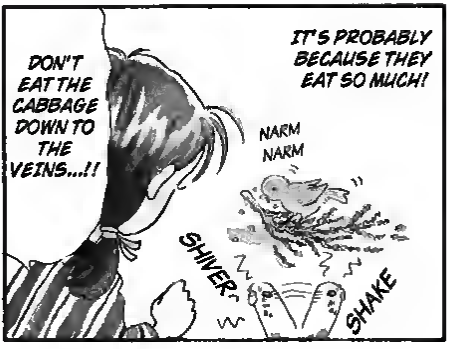

NO NEED TO WORRY THEN....
SKRCH SKRCH SKRCH
SHIVER
SHAKE

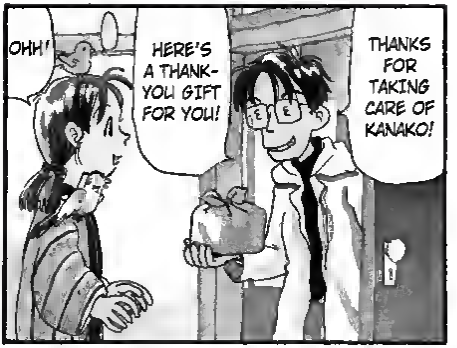
PART 56

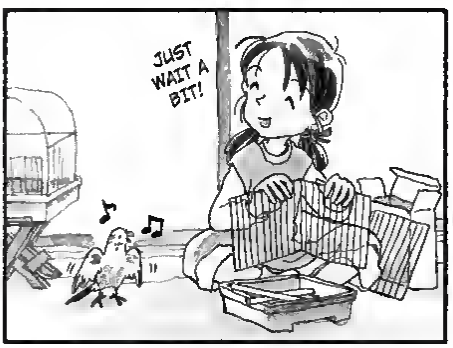
IN KANAKO'S CASE...
IN PIPPIRA'S CASE...
STAARE
OKAY, OKAY
I WONDER IF ALL CANARIES ACT LIKE THIS ALL THE TIME...
STAARE
HAH

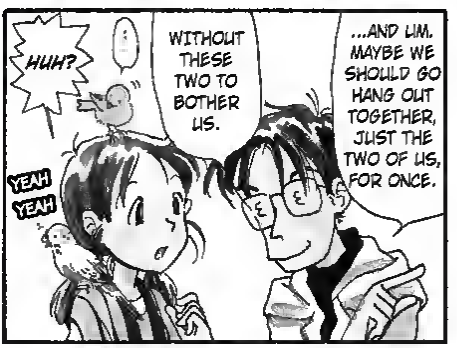
BUT NOW THERE ARE VERY FEW PEOPLE WHO KEEP THEM AS PETS...

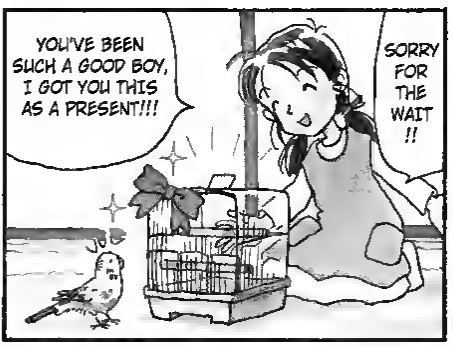


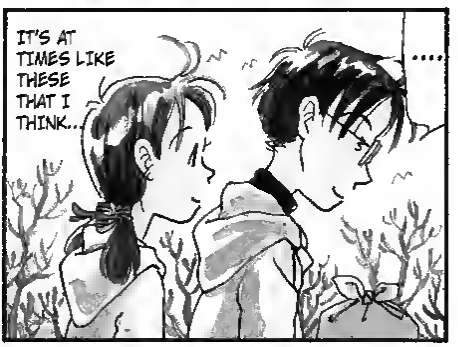


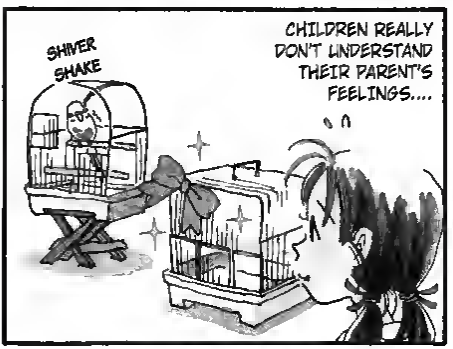

OHH!
HERE'S A THANK-YOU GIFT FOR YOU!
THANKS FOR TAKING CARE OF KANAKO!

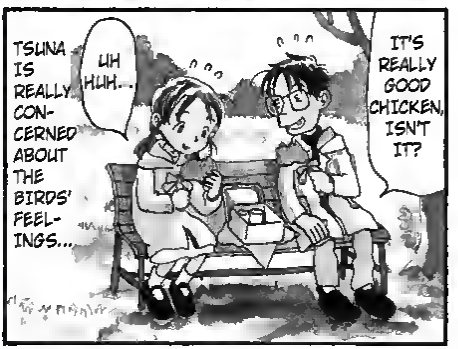

JUST WAIT A BIT!

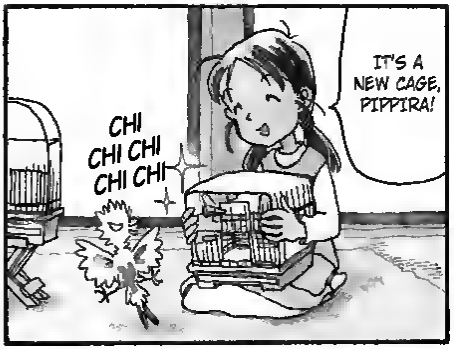

HUH?
YEAH YEAH
WITHOUT THESE TWO TO BOTHER US.
...AND UM. MAYBE WE SHOULD GO HANG OUT TOGETHER, JUST THE TWO OF US, FOR ONCE.

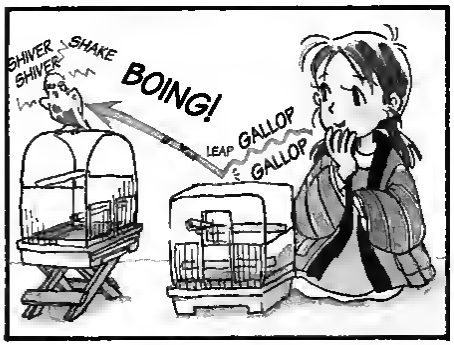

YOU'VE BEEN SUCH A GOOD BOY, I GOT YOU THIS AS A PRESENT!!!
SORRY FOR THE WAIT !!

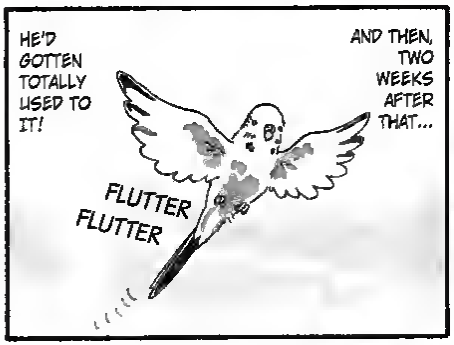

IT'S AT TIMES LIKE THESE THAT I THINK..
....

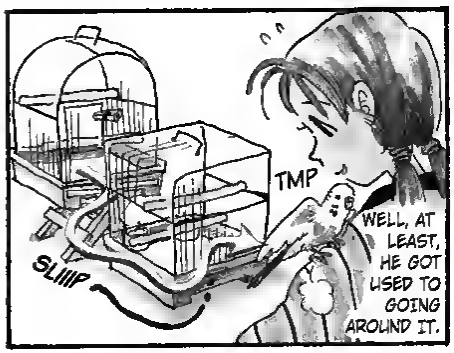

SHIVER SHAKE
CHILDREN REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND THEIR PARENT'S FEELINGS....


TSUNA IS REALLY CON-CERNED ABOUT THE BIRDS' FEEL-INGS...
UH HUH...
IT'S REALLY GOOD CHICKEN, ISN'T IT?









PARSLEY

TURNIP

PART 57

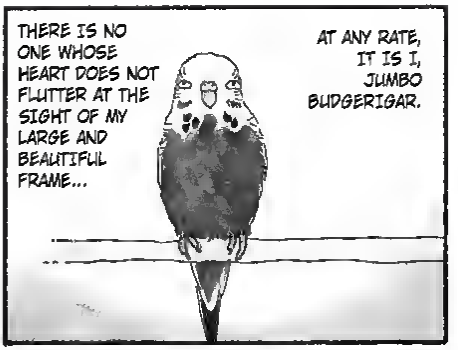
SHEPHERD'S PURSE

COTTONWEED

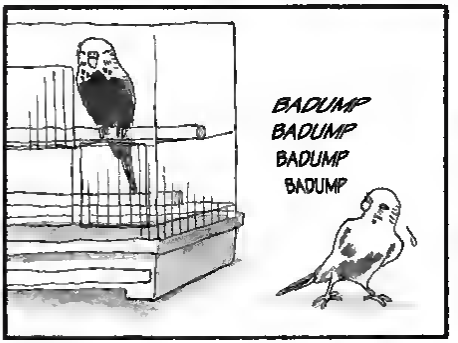
CHICK WEED

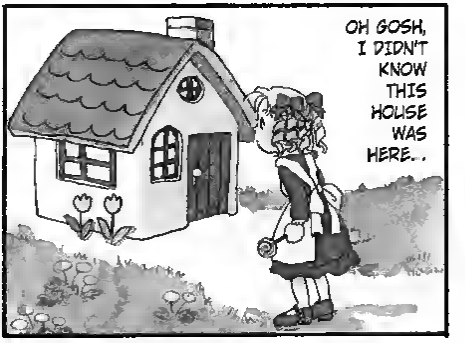
HENBIT

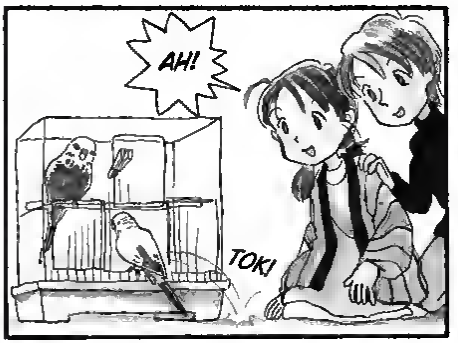
DAIKON


THERE IS NO ONE WHOSE HEART DOES NOT FLUTTER AT THE SIGHT OF MY LARGE AND BEAUTIFUL FRAME...
AT ANY RATE, IT IS I, JUMBO BUDGERIGAR.

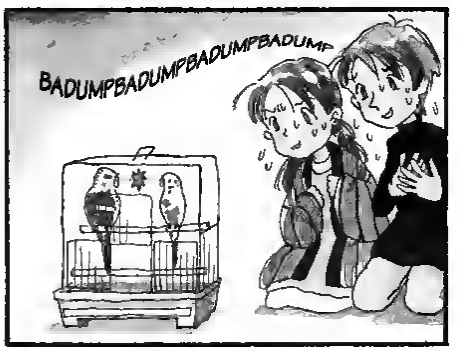
ME AND MY NANNY ARE GOIN' OUT TODAY!
I'M A BEAUTIFUL WIDDLE GIRL...

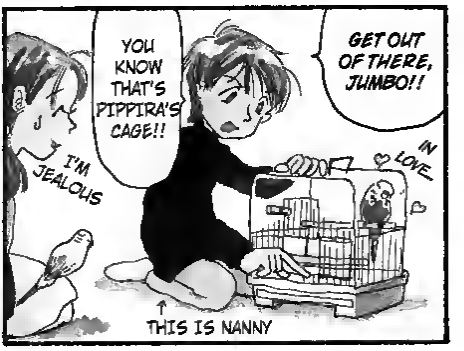

BADUMP BADUMP BADUMP BADUMP


OH GOSH, I DIDN'T KNOW THIS HOUSE WAS HERE..

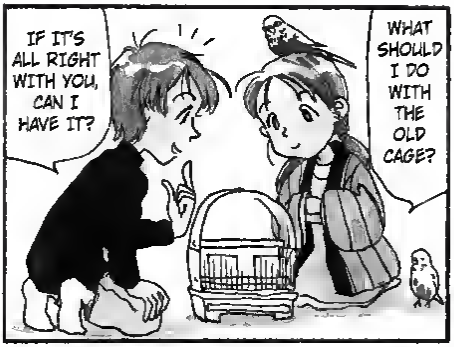

AH!
TOK!

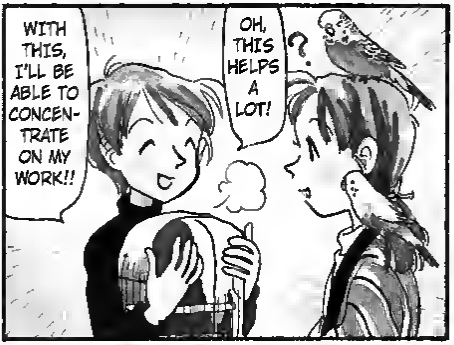
IT'S A PRETTY NICE PLACE! I WILL MAKE IT MY HOME!!

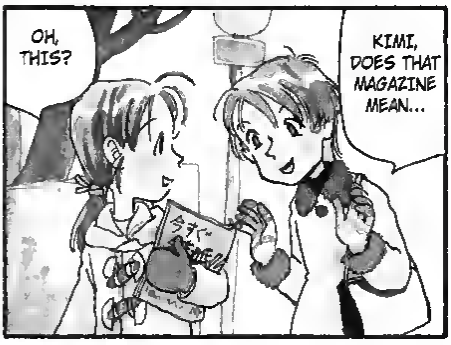

BADUMPBADUMPBADUMPBADUMP

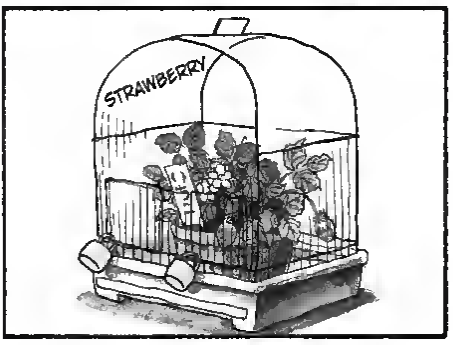

YOU KNOW THAT'S PIPPIRA'S CAGE!!
GET OUT OF THERE, JUMBO!!
I'M JEALOUS
IN LOVE
THIS IS NANNY

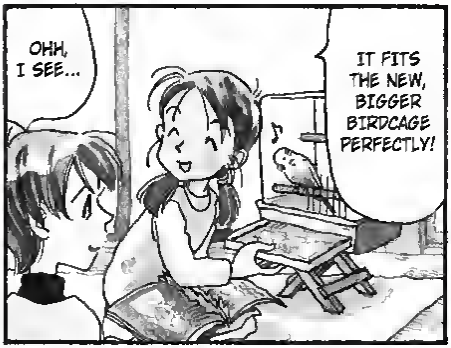
A Happy
New Year
GET MARRIED!!
JUV

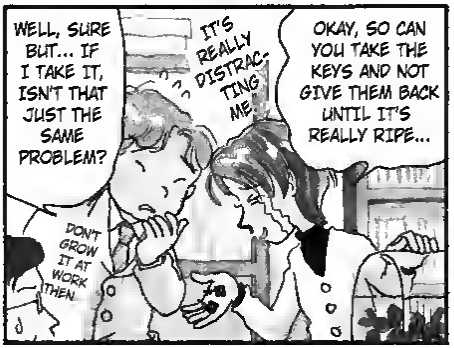

IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU, CAN I HAVE IT?
WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH THE OLD CAGE?

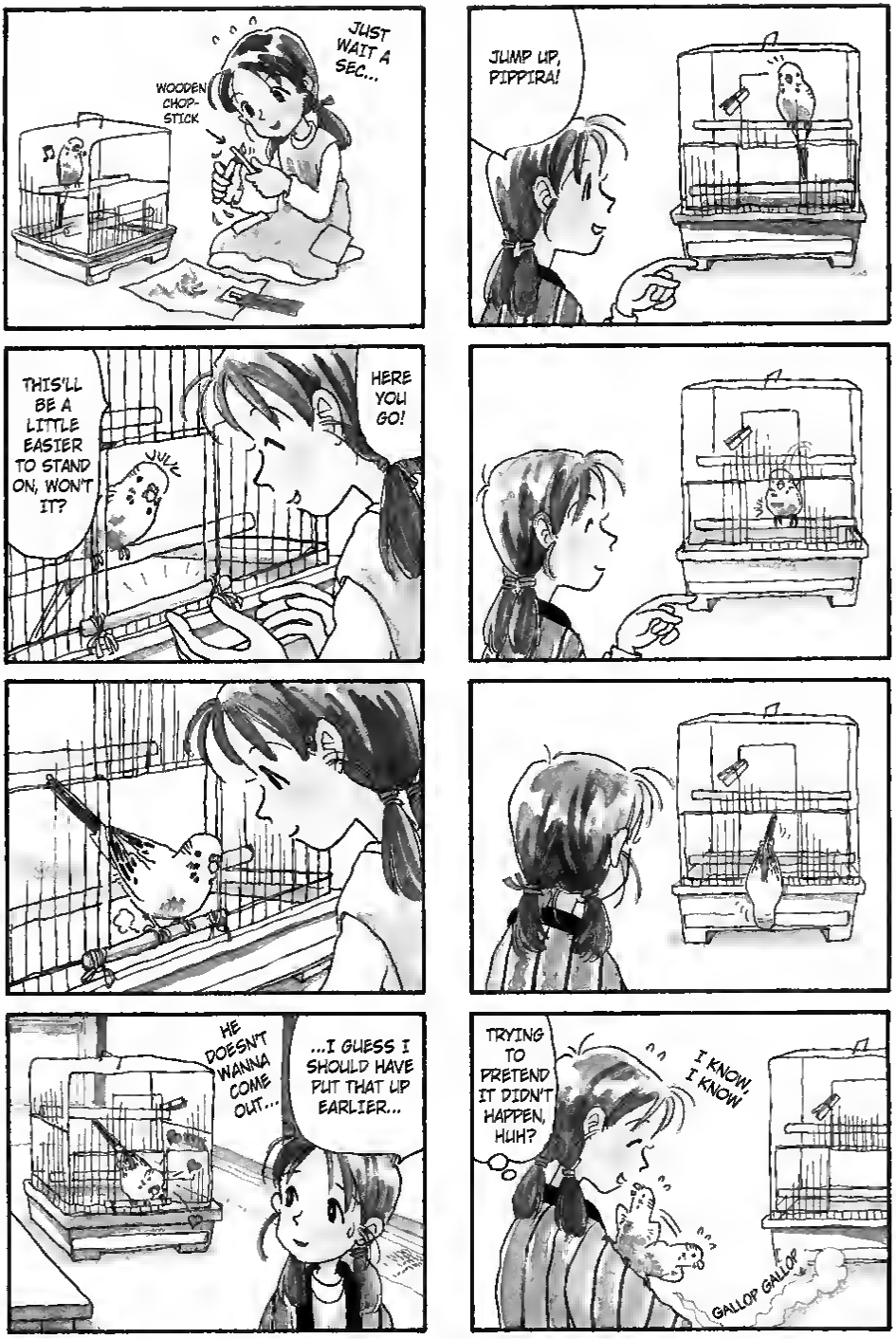

WITH THIS, I'LL BE ABLE TO CONCENTRATE ON MY WORK!!
OH, THIS HELPS A LOT!

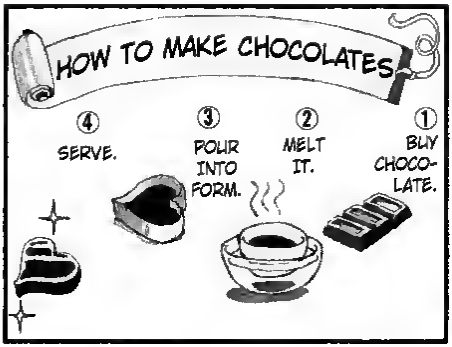

OH, THIS?
KIMI, DOES THAT MAGAZINE MEAN...


STRAWBERRY

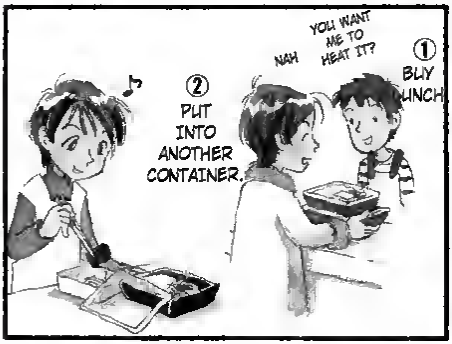

OHH, I SEE...
IT FITS THE NEW, BIGGER BIRDCAGE PERFECTLY!

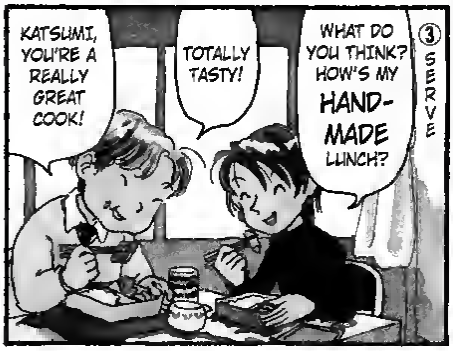

WELL, SURE BUT... IF I TAKE IT, ISN'T THAT JUST THE SAME PROBLEM?
IT'S REALLY DISTRACTING ME.
OKAY, SO CAN YOU TAKE THE KEYS AND NOT GIVE THEM BACK UNTIL IT'S REALLY RIPE...
DON'T GROW IT AT WORK THEN.


JUST WAIT A SEC...
WOODEN CHOP-STICK
JUMP UP, PIPPIRA!
THIS'LL BE A LITTLE EASIER TO STAND ON, WON'T IT?
HERE YOU GO!
HE DOESN'T WANNA COME OUT...
...I GUESS I SHOULD HAVE PUT THAT UP EARLIER...
TRYING TO PRETEND IT DIDN'T HAPPEN, HUH?
I KNOW, I KNOW
GALLOP GALLOP

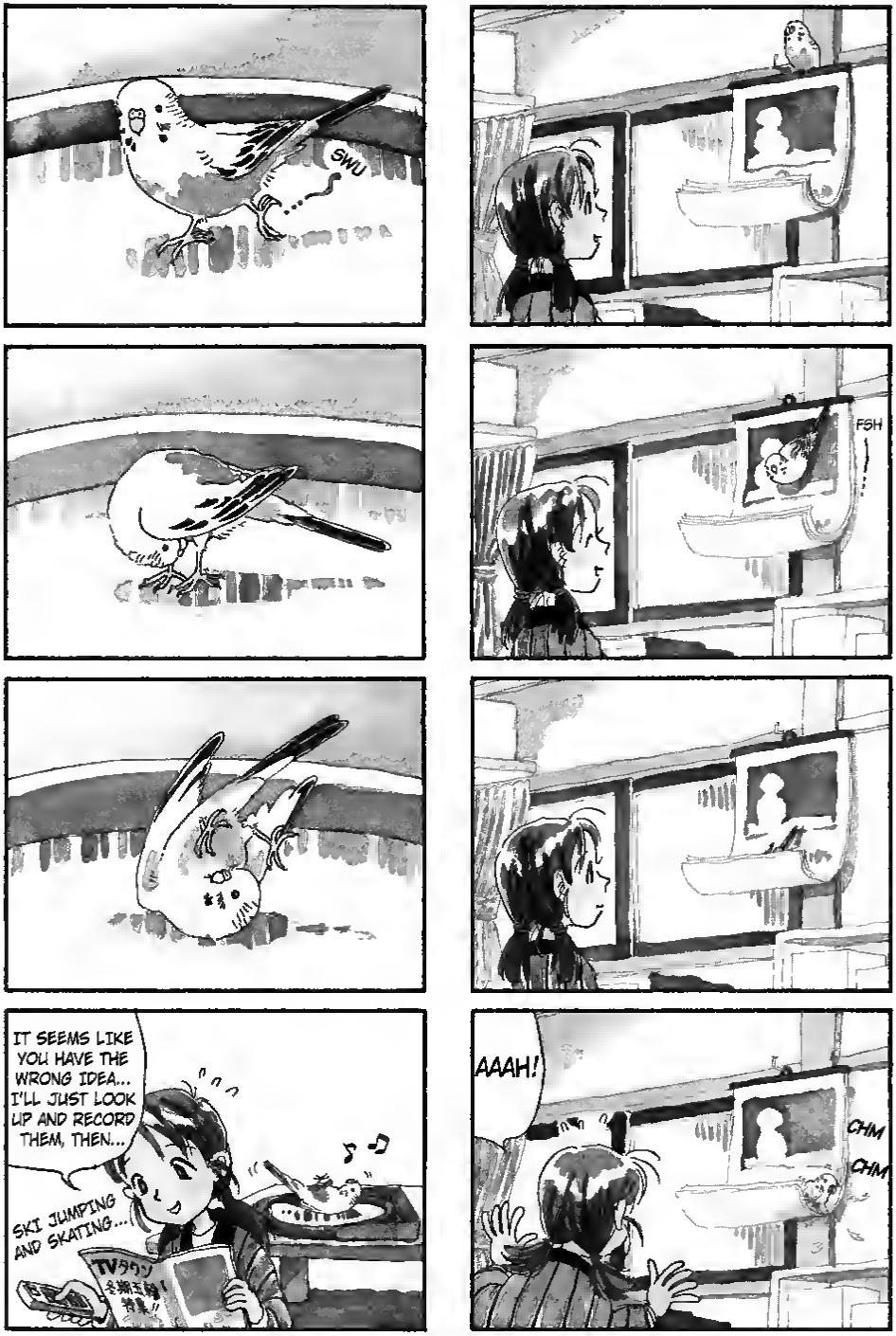

HOW TO MAKE CHOCOLATES
④ SERVE.
③ POUR INTO FORM.
② MELT IT.
① BUY CHOCO-LATE.

WOW, THAT'S GREAT! YOU SURE?
I'M GOING TO APPLY THIS TO MY LIFE!
WOW, I DIDN'T KNOW THAT IT WAS SO EASY TO MAKE.

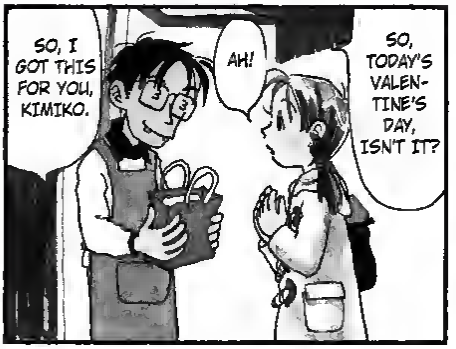

① BUY LUNCH
YOU WANT ME TO HEAT IT?
NAH
② PUT INTO ANOTHER CONTAINER.

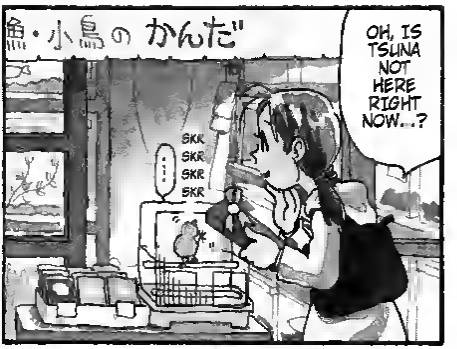

KATSUMI, YOU'RE A REALLY GREAT COOK!
TOTALLY TASTY!
WHAT DO YOU THINK? HOW'S MY HAND-MADE LUNCH?
③ SERVE

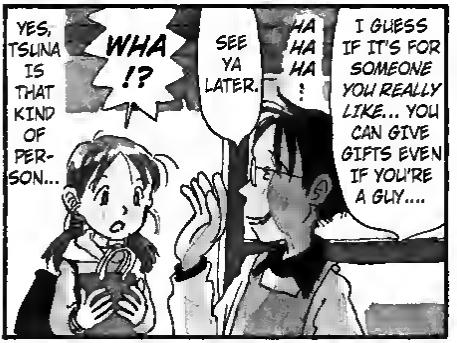
PART 58

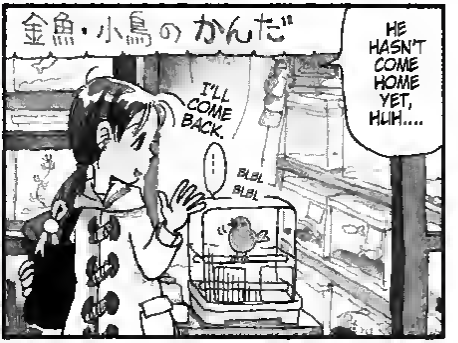

SWU
FSH
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU HAVE THE WRONG IDEA... I'LL JUST LOOK UP AND RECORD THEM, THEN...
SKI JUMPING AND SKATING...
TV
AAAH!
CHM
CHM

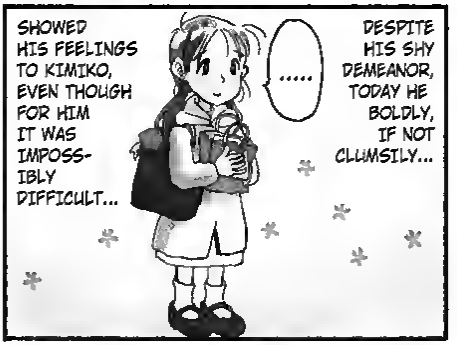
SHWA
SHWA
WOO
WOO
.....
.....
AWAWAWA
WAWAWA
TMP
FSH


SO, I GOT THIS FOR YOU, KIMIKO.
AH!
SO, TODAY'S VALEN-TINE'S DAY, ISN'T IT?

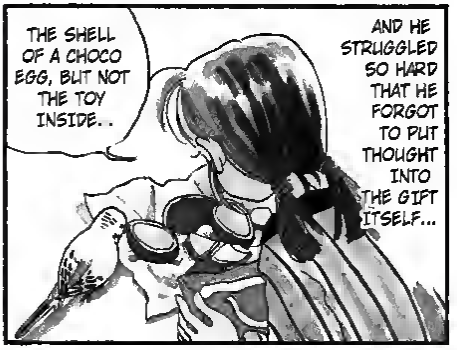

金魚・小鳥のかんだ
OH, IS TSUNA NOT HERE RIGHT NOW...?
SKK SKR SKR SKR


YES, TSUNA IS THAT KIND OF PER-SON...
WHA!?
SEE YA LATER.
HA HA HA...
I GUESS IF IT'S FOR SOMEONE YOU REALLY LIKE... YOU CAN GIVE GIFTS EVEN IF YOU'RE A GUY....


金魚・小鳥のかんだ
HE HASN'T COME HOME YET, HUH....
I'LL COME BACK.
BUBL BUBL

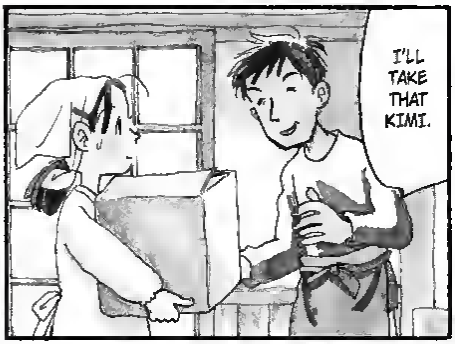

SHOWED HIS FEELINGS TO KIMIKO, EVEN THOUGH FOR HIM IT WAS IMPOSS-IBLY DIFFICULT...
.....
DESPITE HIS SHY DEMEANOR, TODAY HE BOLDLY, IF NOT CLUMSILY...

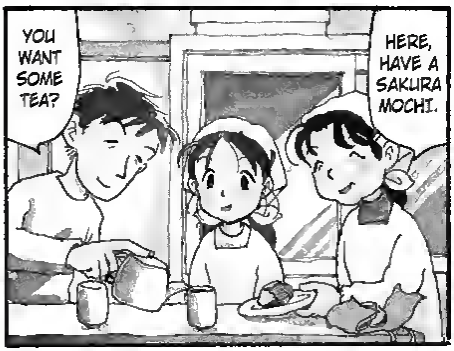
金魚・小鳥のかんだ
.....
.....
ZZZ...

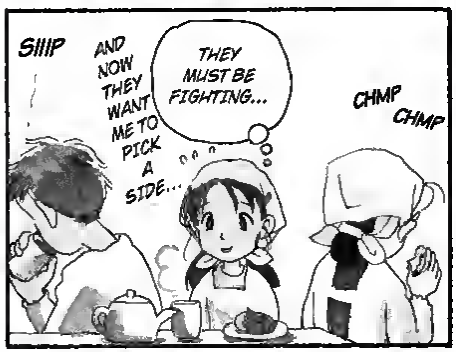

THE SHELL OF A CHOCO EGG, BUT NOT THE TOY INSIDE..
AND HE STRUGGLED SO HARD THAT HE FORGOT TO PUT THOUGHT INTO THE GIFT ITSELF...

IT GOT A LITTLE WINDY SO I BROUGHT HER IN.
OH, WHERE'S KANAKO?
AT SOME POINT, KIMIKO FOR-GOT HER OWN REASON FOR COMING BY.

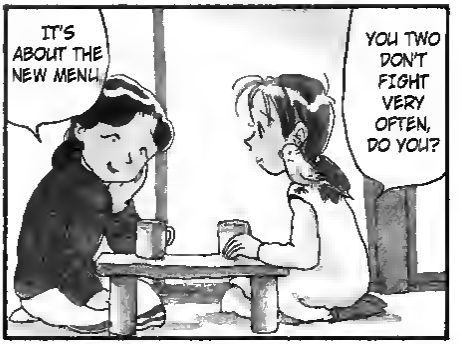
IT'S ALL RIGHT, KIMI, I'LL DO IT.

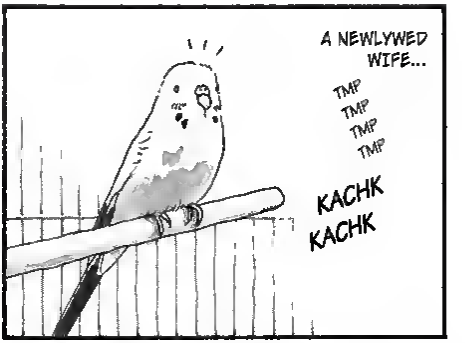

I'LL TAKE THAT KIMI.


YOU WANT SOME TEA?
HERE, HAVE A SAKURA MOCHI.

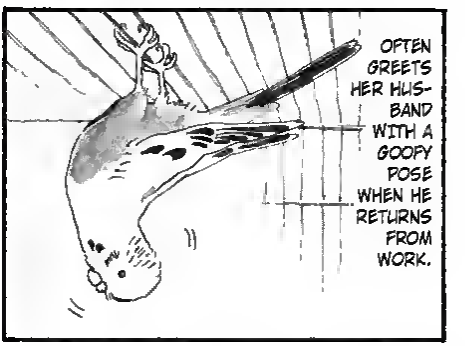

SIIIP
AND NOW THEY WANT ME TO PICK A SIDE...
THEY MUST BE FIGHTING...
CHMP
CHMP

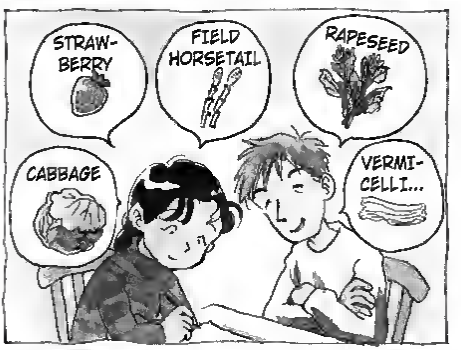
PART 59

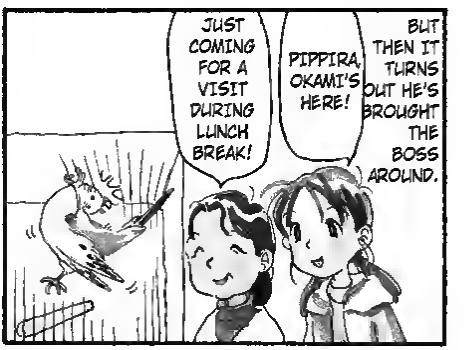

IT'S ABOUT THE NEW MENU.
YOU TWO DON'T FIGHT VERY OFTEN, DO YOU?


A NEWLYWED WIFE...
TMP TMP TMP TMP
KACHK KACHK

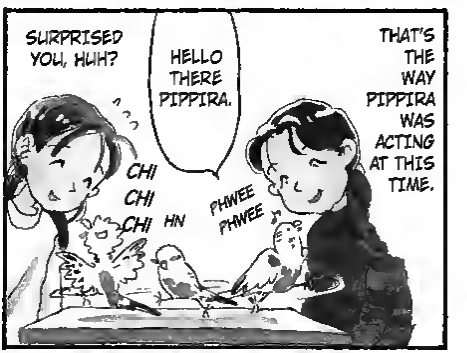
HOW ABOUT BAMBOO SHOOTS?
GOOD IDEA.
IT'S SPRING, SO HOW ABOUT SPRING ROLLS?

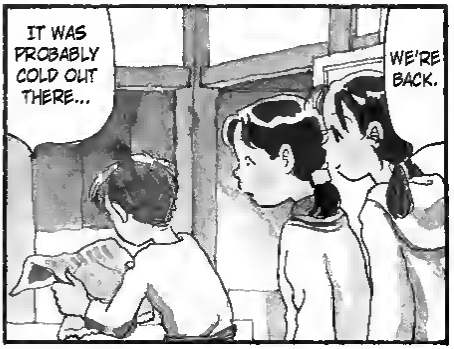

OFTEN GREETS HER HUSBAND WITH A GOOFY POSE WHEN HE RETURNS FROM WORK.

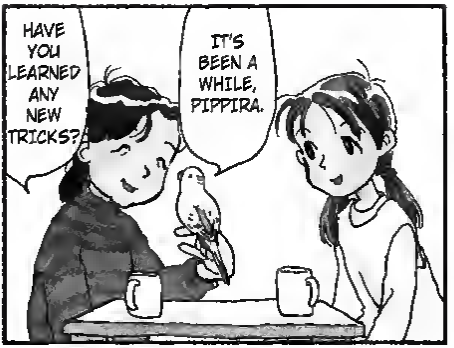

STRAWBERRY
FIELD HORSETAIL
RAPESEED
CABBAGE
VERMICELLI...

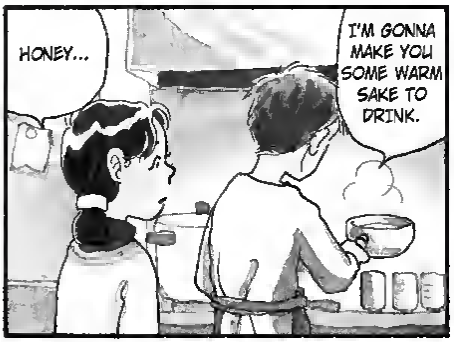

JUST COMING FOR A VISIT DURING LUNCH BREAK!
PIPPIRA, OKAMI'S HERE!
BUT THEN IT TURNS OUT HE'S BROUGHT THE BOSS AROUND.

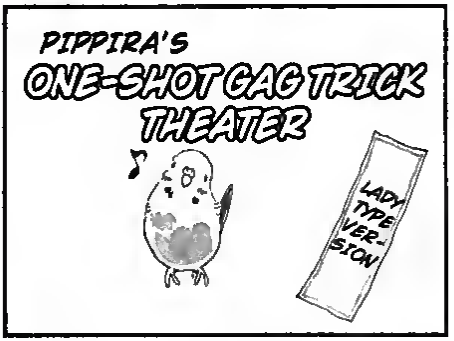
THAT SOUNDS PRETTY BAD, THOUGH...
I SAID I THOUGHT WE COULD LEAVE OUT THE HORSETAIL, AND HE SAID WE SHOULD OMIT THE CABBAGE.....!
I MEAN STRAWBERRY?
MMHMM

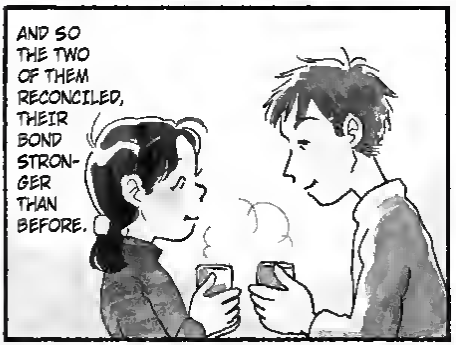

SURPRISED YOU, HUH?
HELLO THERE PIPPIRA.
THAT'S THE WAY PIPPIRA WAS ACTING AT THIS TIME.
CHI CHI CHI
HN
PHWEE PHWEE


IT WAS PROBABLY COLD OUT THERE...
WE'RE BACK.


HAVE YOU LEARNED ANY NEW TRICKS?
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, PIPPIRA.


HONEY...
I'M GONNA MAKE YOU SOME WARM SAKE TO DRINK.


PIPPIRA'S
ONE-SHOT GAG TRICK THEATER
LADY TYPE VER-SION


AND SO THE TWO OF THEM RECONCILED, THEIR BOND STRON-GER THAN BEFORE.

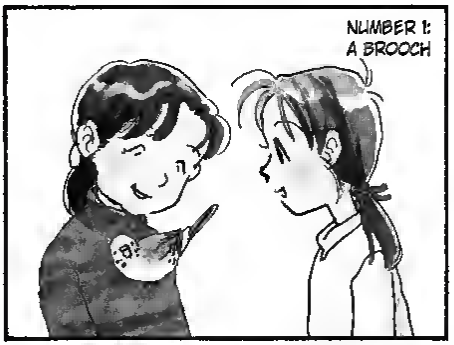
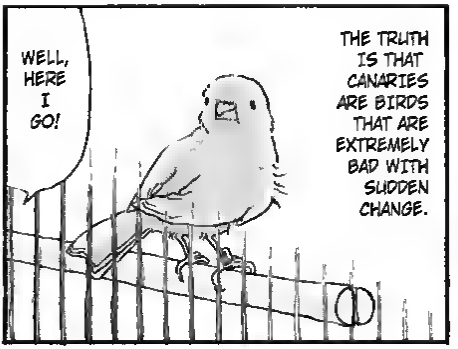
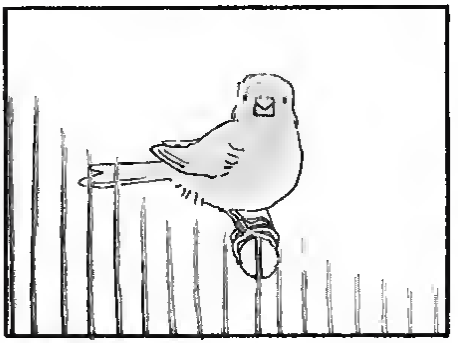

NUMBER 1: A BROOCH

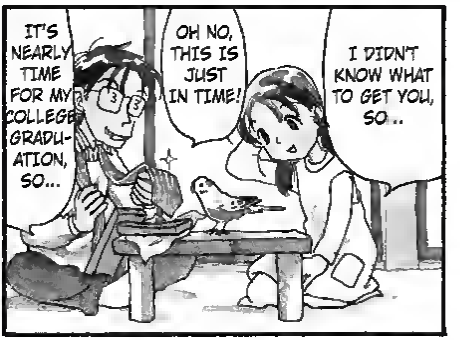
FIGURE 4 LOCK?
GUILLO-TINE CHOKE?
WHICH ONE SHOULD I TRY ON YA..
NYEH HEH HEH
NAH, GOTTA BE THE STF!
WE... HAVE TO OPEN UP THE STORE...
K-KIMI...
FOR THEY WERE NOW UNITED BY THEIR MUTUAL FEAR...

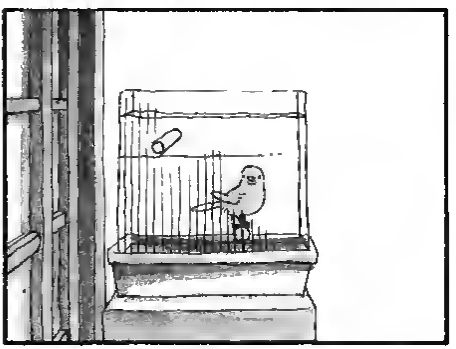
OWOWOWOW OWOWOWO
NUMBER 2: AN EARRING

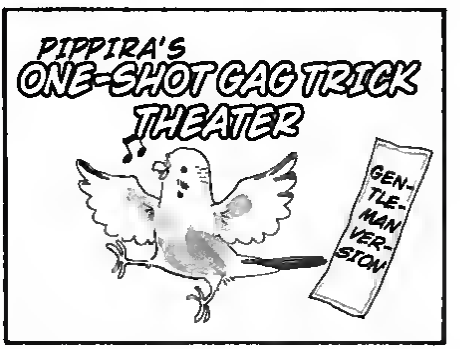

WELL, HERE I GO!
THE TRUTH IS THAT CANARIES ARE BIRDS THAT ARE EXTREMELY BAD WITH SUDDEN CHANGE.

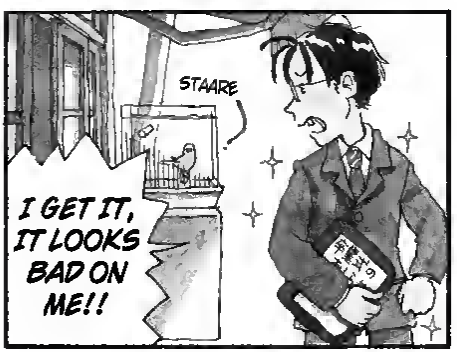
I SHOULD THINK OF A RETURN GIFT FOR TSUNA'S CHOCOLATE.

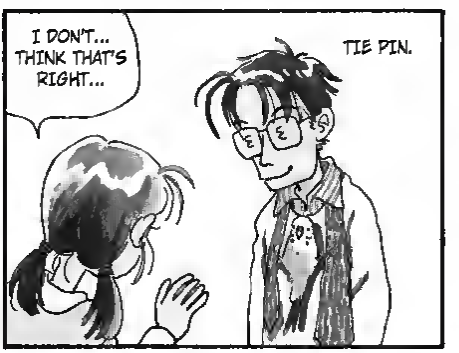


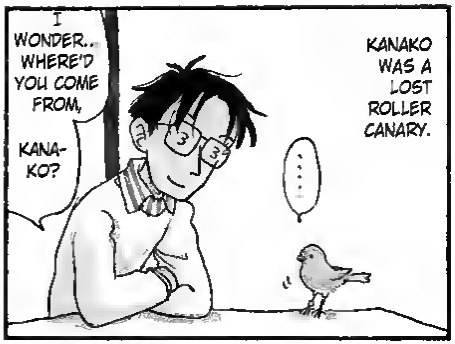

IT'S NEARLY TIME FOR MY COLLEGE GRADUATION, SO...
OH NO, THIS IS JUST IN TIME!
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO GET YOU, SO..

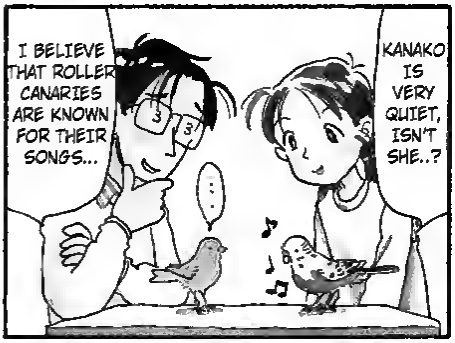


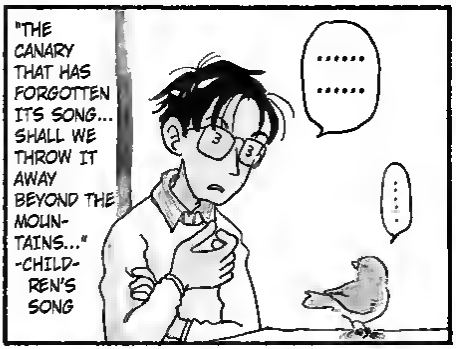

PIPPIRA'S
ONE-SHOT GAG TRICK THEATER
GENTLEMAN VERSION


STAARE
I GET IT, IT LOOKS BAD ON ME!!


I DON'T... THINK THAT'S RIGHT...
TIE PIN.

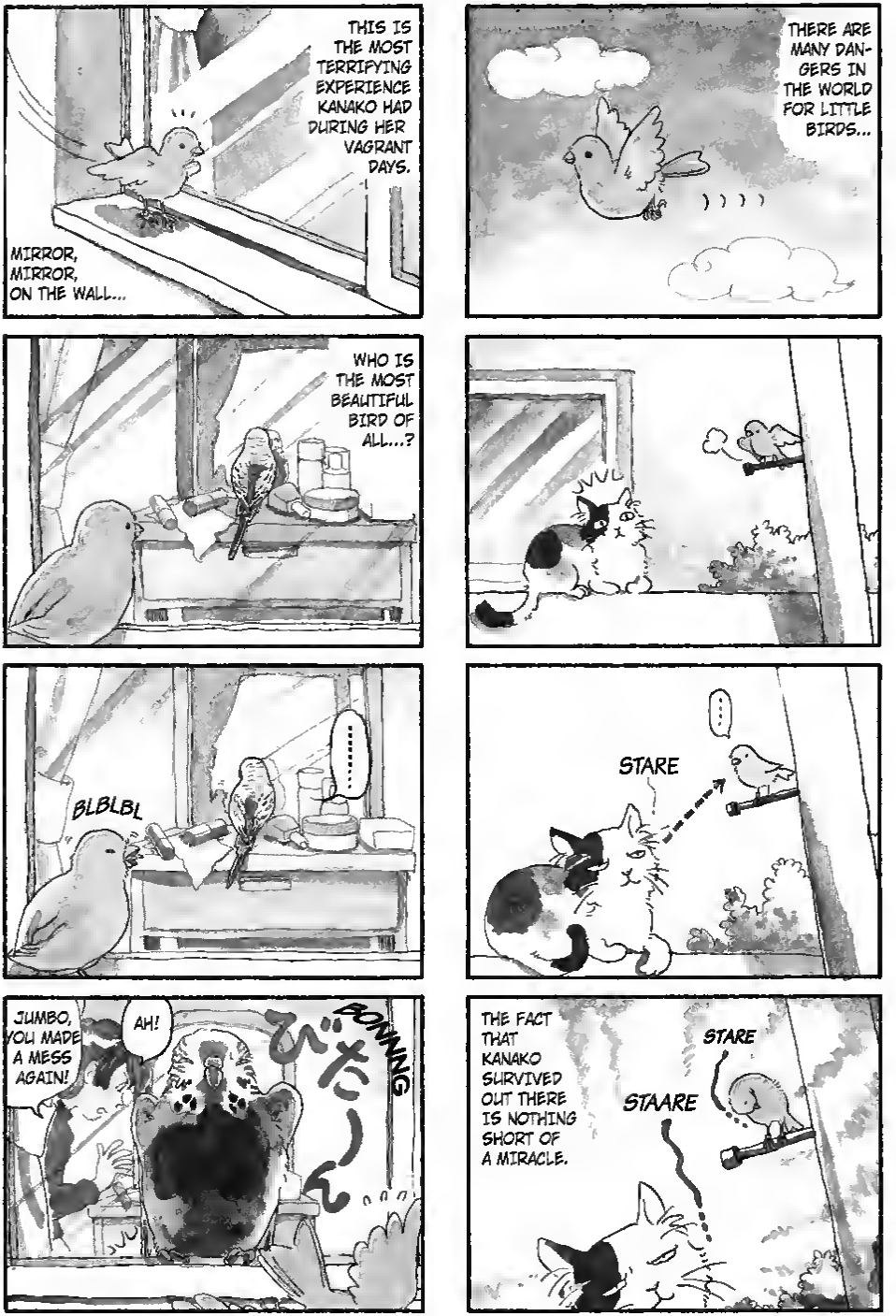

I WONDER.. WHERE'D YOU COME FROM, KANA-KO?
KANAKO WAS A LOST ROLLER CANARY.


I BELIEVE THAT ROLLER CANARIES ARE KNOWN FOR THEIR SONGS...
KANAKO IS VERY QUIET, ISN'T SHE..?

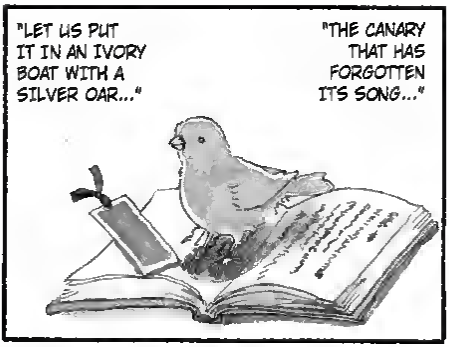

"THE CANARY THAT HAS FORGOTTEN ITS SONG... SHALL WE THROW IT AWAY BEYOND THE MOUN-TAINS..." -CHILD-REN'S SONG

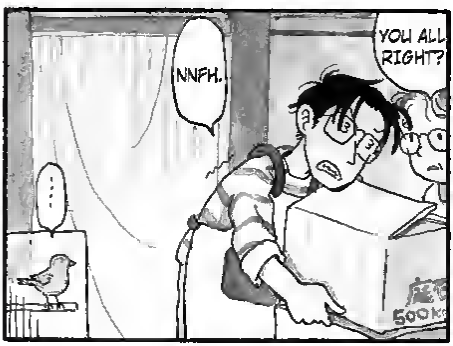
?
EAT! EAT!
I KNOW, I KNOW... IT'S BEEN SO HARD FOR YOU, KANAKO!
FSH

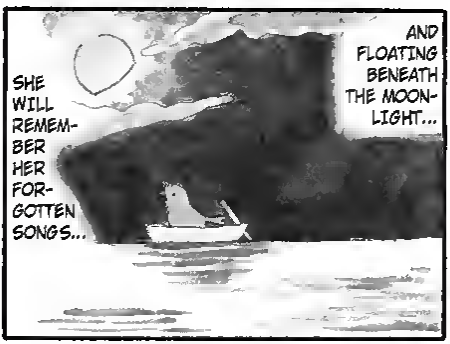
PART 60


THIS IS THE MOST TERRIFYING EXPERIENCE KANAKO HAD DURING HER VAGRANT DAYS.
MIRROR, MIRROR, ON THE WALL...
THERE ARE MANY DANGERS IN THE WORLD FOR LITTLE BIRDS...
WHO IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL BIRD OF ALL...?
BLBLBL
STARE
JUMBO, YOU MADE A MESS AGAIN!
AH!
BONNNG
THE FACT THAT KANAKO SURVIVED OUT THERE IS NOTHING SHORT OF A MIRACLE.
STARE
STAARE

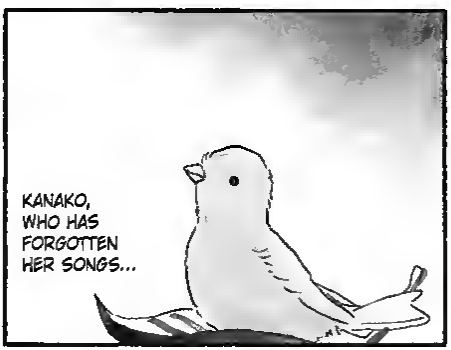
I'LL DO IT, AUNTIE.
MMPH.

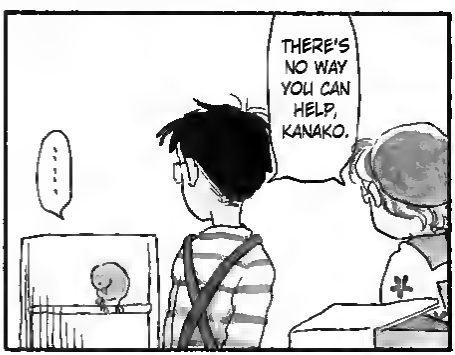

"LET US PUT IT IN AN IVORY BOAT WITH A SILVER OAR..."
"THE CANARY THAT HAS FORGOTTEN ITS SONG..."

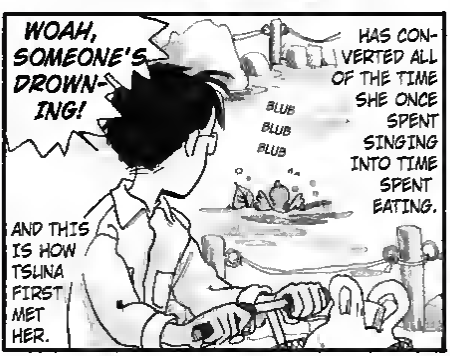

NNFH.
YOU ALL RIGHT?


SHE WILL REMEMBER HER FORGOTTEN SONGS...
AND FLOATING BENEATH THE MOONLIGHT...

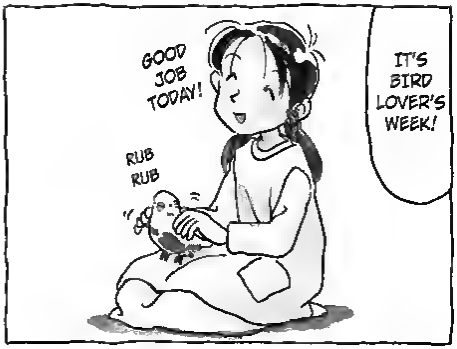
HOP
HOP
HOP

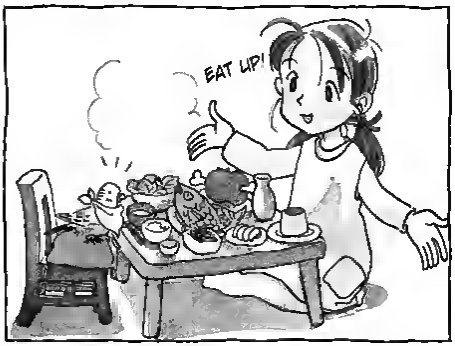

KANAKO, WHO HAS FORGOTTEN HER SONGS...

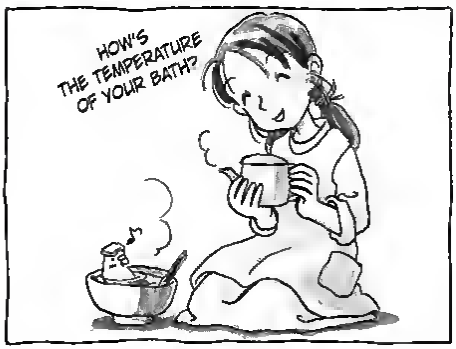

THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN HELP, KANAKO.

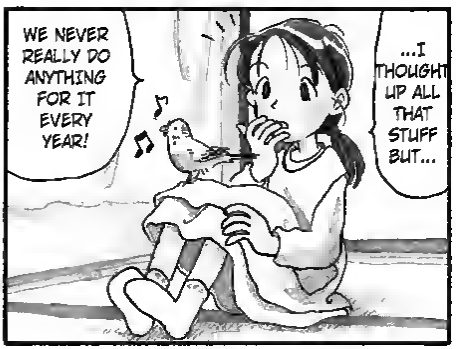

WOAH, SOMEONE'S DROWNING!
BLUB
BLUB
BLUB
HAS CONVERTED ALL OF THE TIME SHE ONCE SPENT SINGING INTO TIME SPENT EATING.
AND THIS IS HOW TSUNA FIRST MET HER.

'SCUSE UUS!
KEH
THE SAKURA FLOWERS ARE NICE, AREN'T THEY KANAKO?
PARDON ME?
KEH
HERE YOU GO, KANAKO, CHICK-WEED!
YES! COME ON IN!
KANAKO IS SURE WORKING HARD...
DO YOU HAVE MONKEY FOOD?
KEH
PIPPIRA, YOU'RE VERY GOOD AT IMPRES-SIONS...
BUT...
KEH KEH
NO, NO, WAIT A SEC...
KEH
O-OH... IS THAT THE SOUND CANARIES MAKE, THEN?
IS SHE REALLY A CANARY?

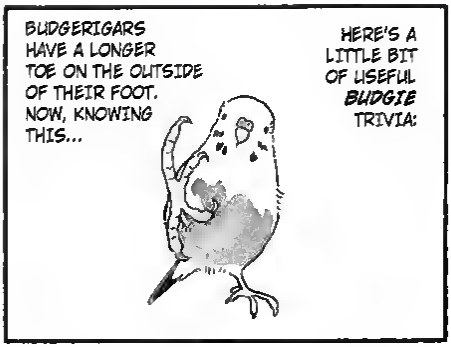

GOOD JOB TODAY!
RUB RUB
IT'S BIRD LOVER'S WEEK!

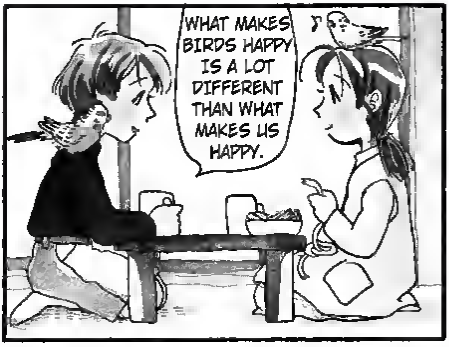

EAT UP!

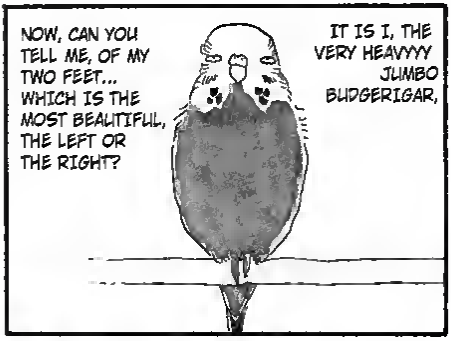

HOW'S THE TEMPERATURE OF YOUR BATH?

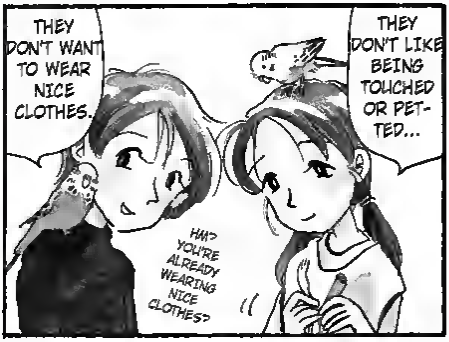

WE NEVER REALLY DO ANYTHING FOR IT EVERY YEAR!
...I THOUGHT UP ALL THAT STUFF BUT...

PART 61


BUDGERIGARS HAVE A LONGER TOE ON THE OUTSIDE OF THEIR FOOT. NOW, KNOWING THIS...
HERE'S A LITTLE BIT OF USEFUL BUDGIE TRIVIA:

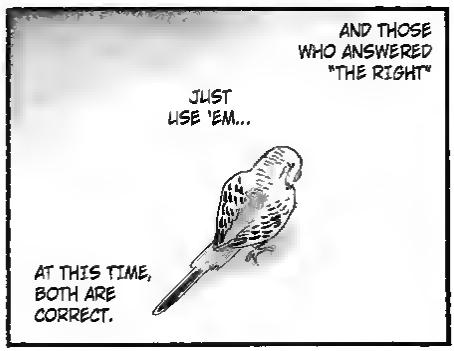

WHAT MAKES BIRDS HAPPY IS A LOT DIFFERENT THAN WHAT MAKES US HAPPY.

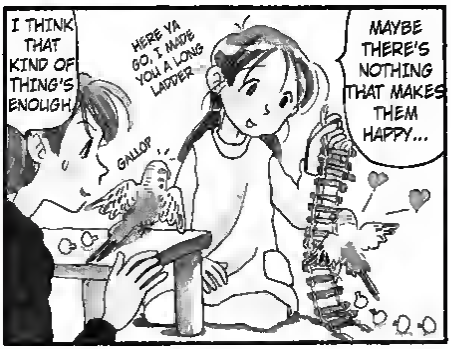

NOW, CAN YOU TELL ME, OF MY TWO FEET... WHICH IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL, THE LEFT OR THE RIGHT?
IT IS I, THE VERY HEAVYYY JUMBO BUDGERIGAR,

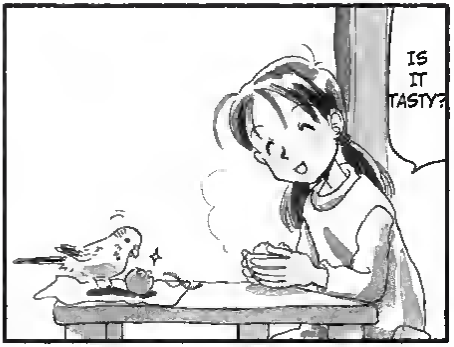

THEY DON'T WANT TO WEAR NICE CLOTHES.
THEY DON'T LIKE BEING TOUCHED OR PET-TED...
HM? YOU'RE ALREADY WEARING NICE CLOTHES?

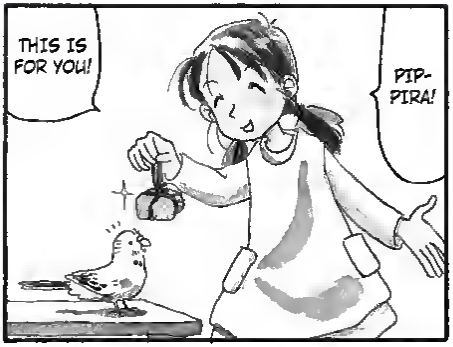
BOMF
THOSE WHO ANSWER-ED "THE LEFT"...

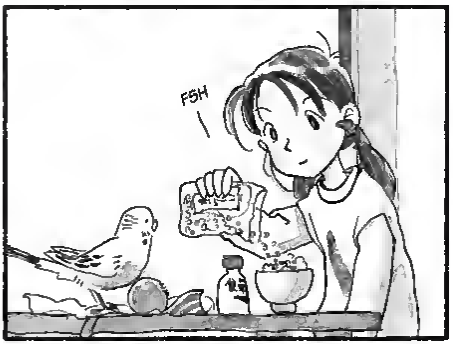
AND BUDGIES REALLY DON'T LIKE THE BATH...
TRAVEL STRESSES THEM OUT A LOT...

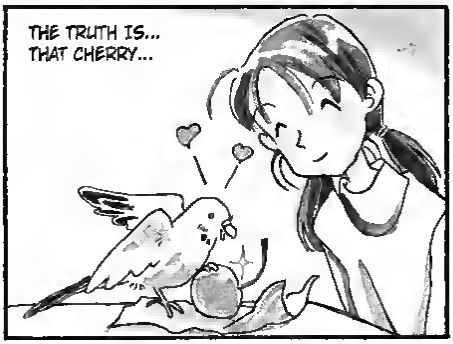

AND THOSE WHO ANSWERED "THE RIGHT"
JUST USE 'EM...
AT THIS TIME, BOTH ARE CORRECT.

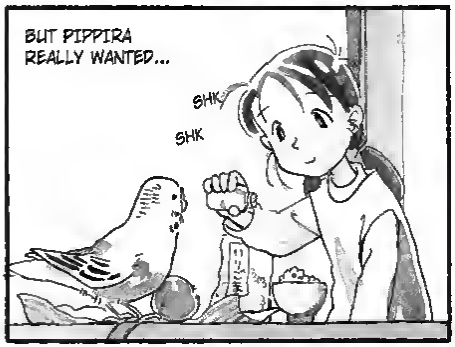

I THINK THAT KIND OF THING'S ENOUGH.
HERE YA GO, I MADE YOU A LONG LADDER.
GALLOP
MAYBE THERE'S NOTHING THAT MAKES THEM HAPPY...

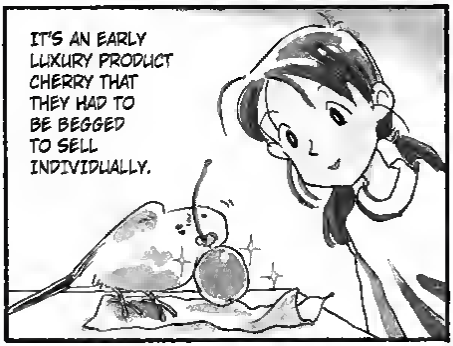

IS IT TASTY?

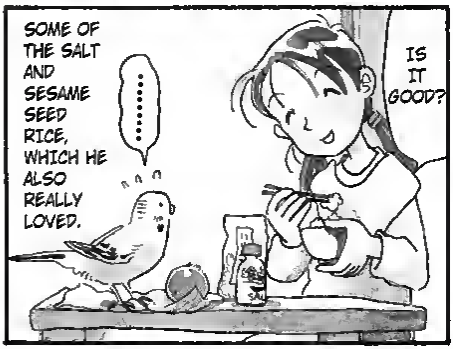

THIS IS FOR YOU!
PIP-PIRA!

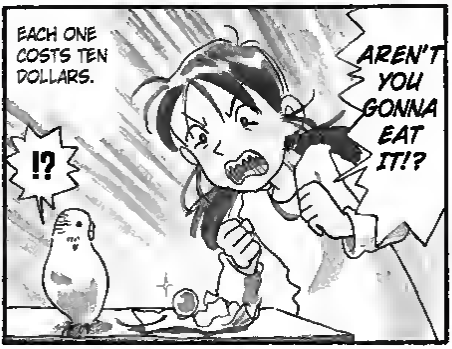

FSH


THE TRUTH IS... THAT CHERRY...

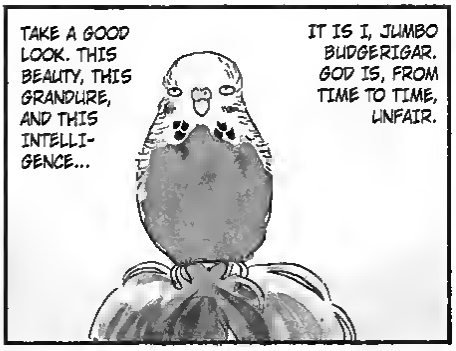

BUT PIPPIRA REALLY WANTED...
SHK
SHK

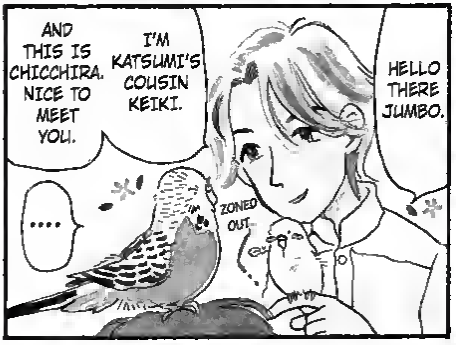

IT'S AN EARLY LUXURY PRODUCT CHERRY THAT THEY HAD TO BE BEGGED TO SELL INDIVIDUALLY.


SOME OF THE SALT AND SESAME SEED RICE, WHICH HE ALSO REALLY LOVED.
IS IT GOOD?


EACH ONE COSTS TEN DOLLARS.
!?
AREN'T YOU GONNA EAT IT!?

花と緑
OH YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT, IT'S ALMOST MOTHER'S DAY...
PIPPIRA SOMETIMES GETS UPSET ABOUT REALLY SMALL THINGS.
CHI CHI CHI CHI
I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANYTHING GOOD...
I SENT FLOWERS LAST YEAR..
I KNOW, I KNOW, YOU HATE IT WHEN I DUST.
STOP...
.....
.....
WHAT CAN I BUY FOR ABOUT THIRTY..
OH MY!
HE SAYS HE'S BRINGING PIPPIRA'S MOM ALONG.
HEY, MY COUSIN'S COMING TO VISIT.
.....
KIMIKO....
THREE CHERRIES
WHEN ONE IS FEELING TRUE FEAR, ONE BECOMES UNABLE TO SAY A WORD.
ISN'T THAT NICE, PIPPIRA!
SURE! GREAT!
YOU WANNA COME OVER TOO, KIMI?
PITTER, PATTER

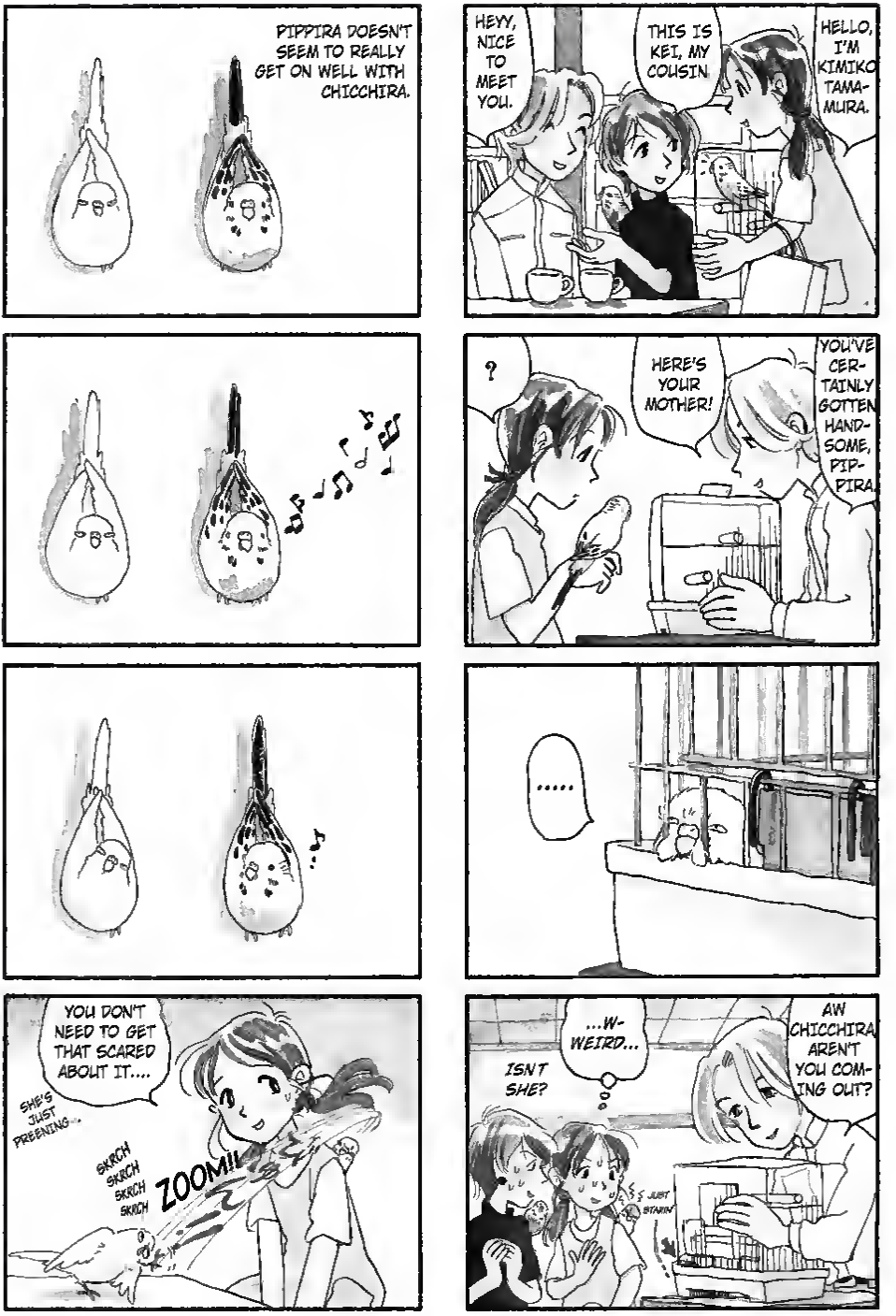

TAKE A GOOD LOOK. THIS BEAUTY, THIS GRANDURE, AND THIS INTELLI-GENCE...
IT IS I, JUMBO BUDGERIGAR. GOD IS, FROM TIME TO TIME, UNFAIR.

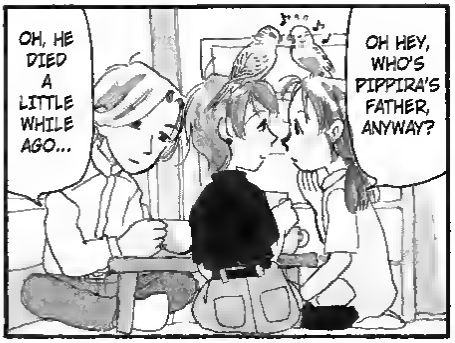

AND THIS IS CHICCHIRA. NICE TO MEET YOU.
I'M KATSUMI'S COUSIN KEIKI.
HELLO THERE JUMBO.
....
ZONED OUT

.....
SAY AHHHH!
DINNER, CHI-CCHI-RA.
NUM NUM

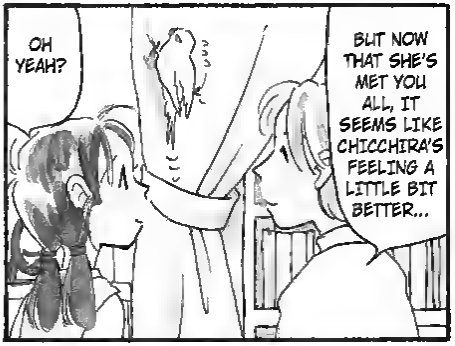
OW, OW, WHAT!?
YANK
WHAT TO DO WITH YOU...
OH MY, LET ME CLEAN YOU UP.
WIPE WIPE

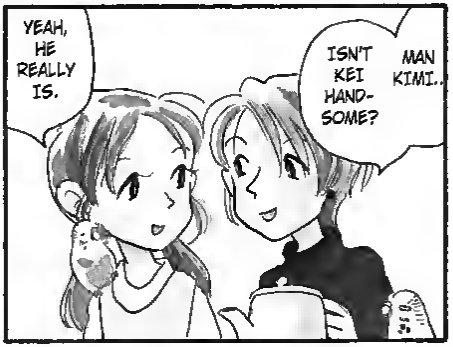
PART 62

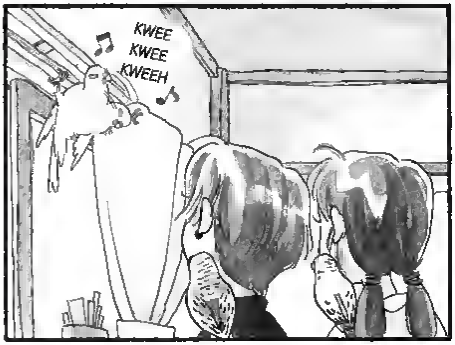

PIPPIRA DOESN'T SEEM TO REALLY GET ON WELL WITH CHICCHIRA.
HEYY, NICE TO MEET YOU.
THIS IS KEI, MY COUSIN
HELLO, I'M KIMIKO TAMA-MURA.
?
HERE'S YOUR MOTHER!
YOU'VE CER-TAINLY GOTTEN HAND-SOME, PIP-PIRA.
.....
YOU DON'T NEED TO GET THAT SCARED ABOUT IT....
SHE'S JUST PREENING...
SKRCH SKRCH SKRCH SKRCH
ZOOM!!
...W-WEIRD...
ISN'T SHE?
AW CHICCHIRA, AREN'T YOU COM-ING OUT?
JUST STARIN'


OH, HE DIED A LITTLE WHILE AGO...
OH HEY, WHO'S PIPPIRA'S FATHER, ANYWAY?

IT'S COOL, I GOT IT.
DING DONNNG

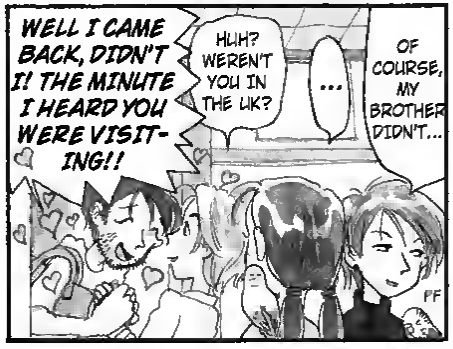

OH YEAH?
BUT NOW THAT SHE'S MET YOU ALL, IT SEEMS LIKE CHICCHIRA'S FEELING A LITTLE BIT BETTER...

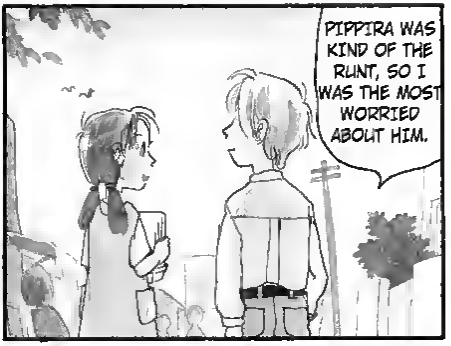

YEAH, HE REALLY IS.
ISN'T KEI HAND-SOME?
MAN KIMI..

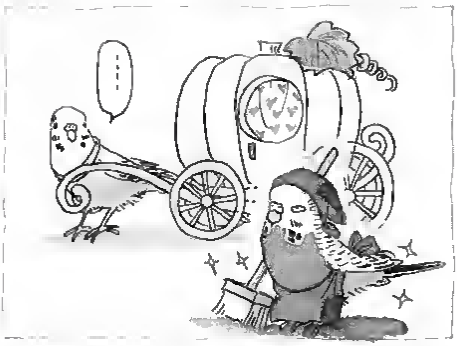

KWEE KWEE KWEEH

BUT I GAVE UP ON HIM RIGHT AWAY.
BACK IN THE DAY, I HAD A LITTLE CRUSH ON HIM, YOU KNOW...

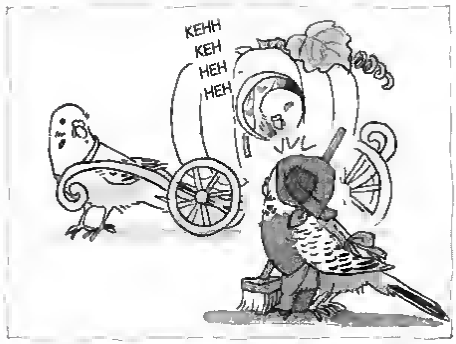
ZZZ
OH, MY DID YOU FALL ASLEEP?
EVEN IF SHE'S DOING BETTER, SHE'S STILL WEIRD.
HMPH!
MM HMM

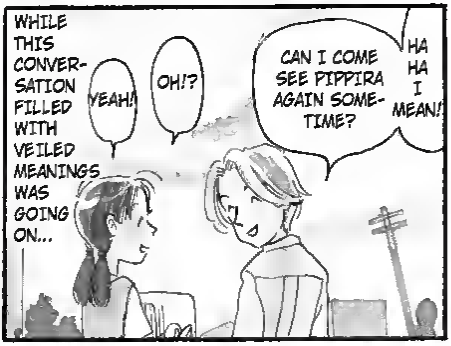

WELL I CAME BACK, DIDN'T I! THE MINUTE I HEARD YOU WERE VISIT-ING!!
HUH? WEREN'T YOU IN THE UK?
...
OF COURSE, MY BROTHER DIDN'T...
FF


PIPPIRA WAS KIND OF THE RUNT, SO I WAS THE MOST WORRIED ABOUT HIM.

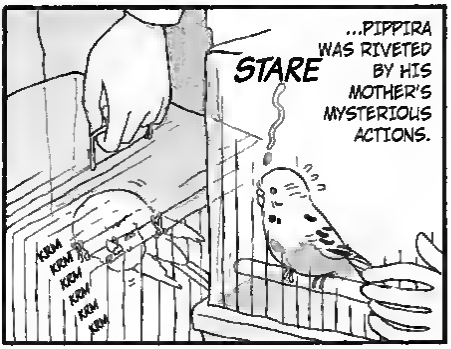


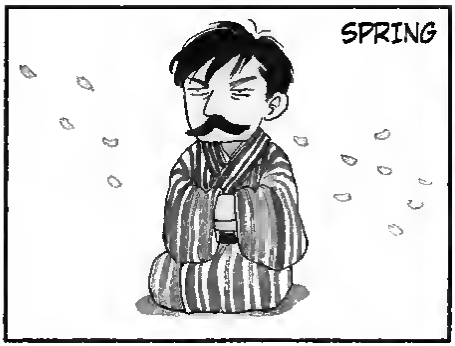
.....
.....
IN FACT, I'M KIND OF JEALOUS OF YOU.
BUT SINCE HE'S WITH YOU, I FEEL CALM NOW...


KEHH KEH HEH HEH

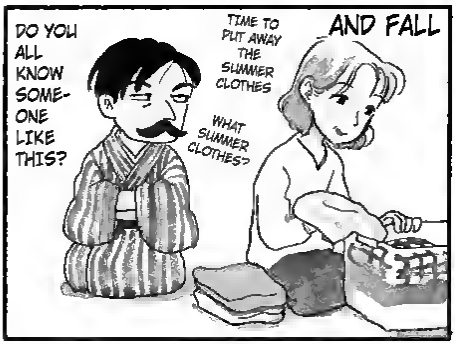

WHILE THIS CONVERSATION FILLED WITH VEILED MEANINGS WAS GOING ON...
YEAH!
OH!?
CAN I COME SEE PIPPIRA AGAIN SOMETIME?
HA HA I MEAN!

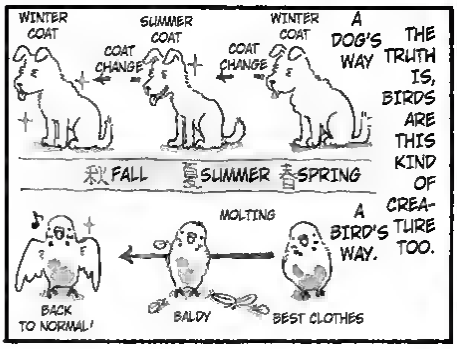
JUST SLEEP QUIETLY, JEEZ.
WHAT, JUMBO?
BEAK GRINDING
CHI CHUR CHI CHUR CHI CHUR CHI CHUR CHI
KIII !!

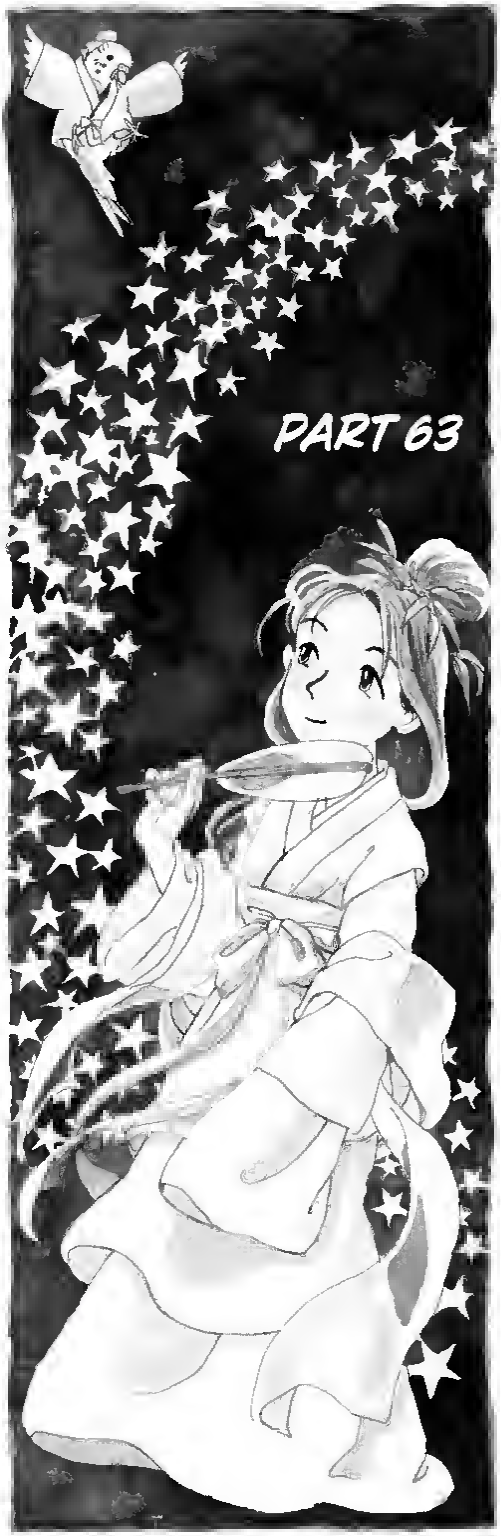

...PIPPIRA WAS RIVETED BY HIS MOTHER'S MYSTERIOUS ACTIONS.
STARE
KRM KRM KRM KRM KRM

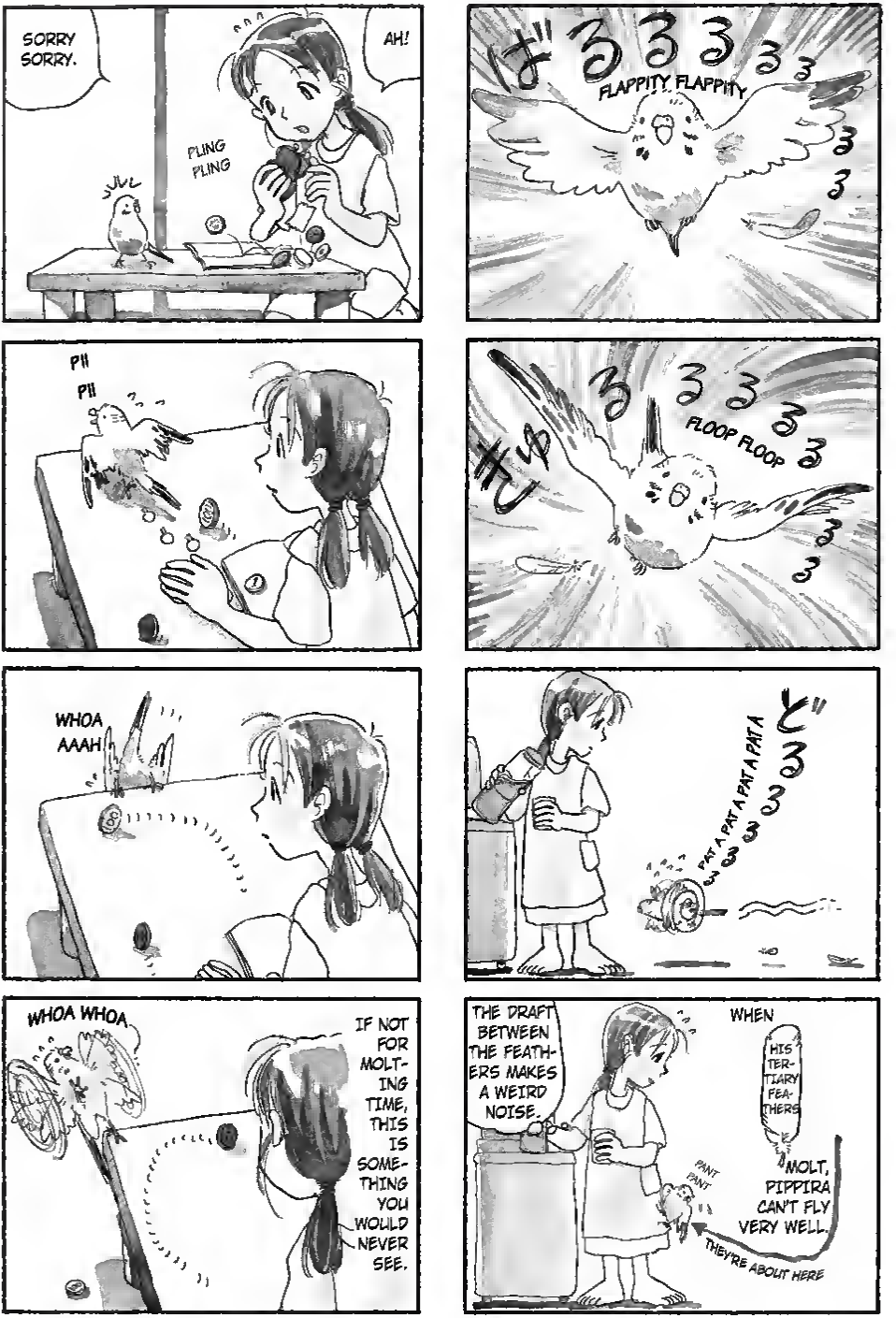

SPRING

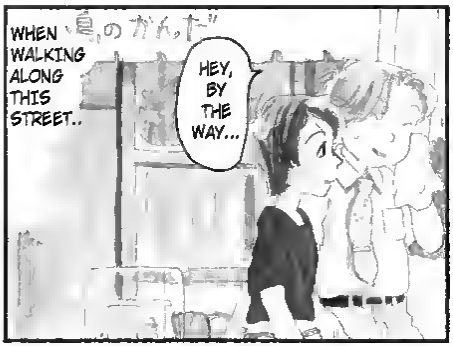
RING A LING
SUMMER


DO YOU ALL KNOW SOME-ONE LIKE THIS?
TIME TO PUT AWAY THE SUMMER CLOTHES
WHAT SUMMER CLOTHES?
AND FALL

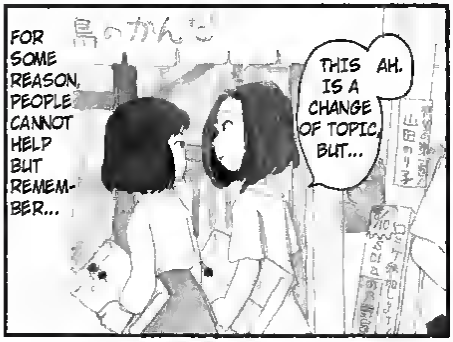

WINTER COAT
COAT CHANGE
SUMMER COAT
COAT CHANGE
WINTER COAT
A DOG'S WAY
THE TRUTH IS, BIRDS ARE THIS KIND OF CREA-TURE TOO.
秋 FALL
夏 SUMMER
春 SPRING
MOLTING
A BIRD'S WAY.
BACK TO NORMAL!
BALDY
BEST CLOTHES

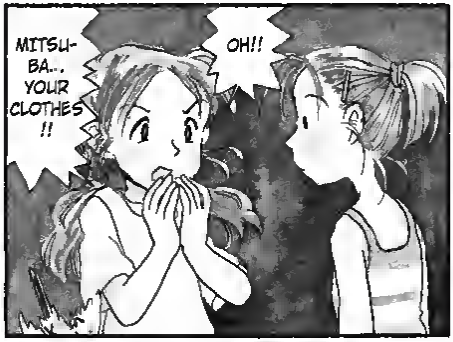

PART 63

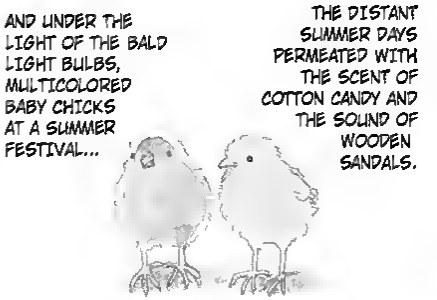

SORRY SORRY.
PLING PLING
AH!
FLAPPITY FLAPPITY
PII PII
FLOOP FLOOP
WHOA AAAH
PAT A PAT A PAT A PAT A
WHOA WHOA
IF NOT FOR MOLTING TIME, THIS IS SOMETHING YOU WOULD NEVER SEE.
THE DRAFT BETWEEN THE FEATHERS MAKES A WEIRD NOISE.
WHEN
HIS TERTIARY FEATHERS
MOLT, PIPPIRA CAN'T FLY VERY WELL.
PANT PANT
THEY'RE ABOUT HERE

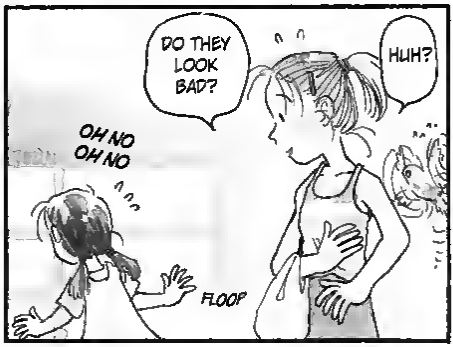

WHEN WALKING ALONG THIS STREET..
HEY, BY THE WAY...

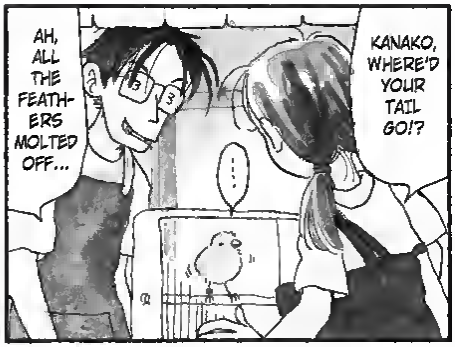
MORNING KIMI! AND PIPPIRA TOO!


FOR SOME REASON, PEOPLE CANNOT HELP BUT REMEMBER...
THIS AH, IS A CHANGE OF TOPIC, BUT...

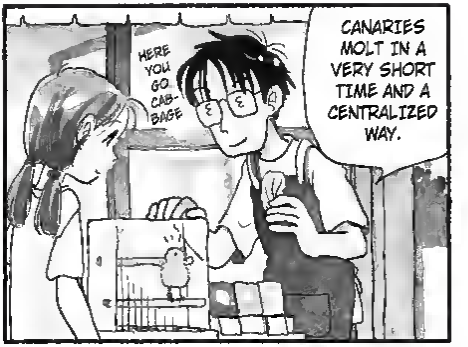

MITSUBA... YOUR CLOTHES !!
OH!!

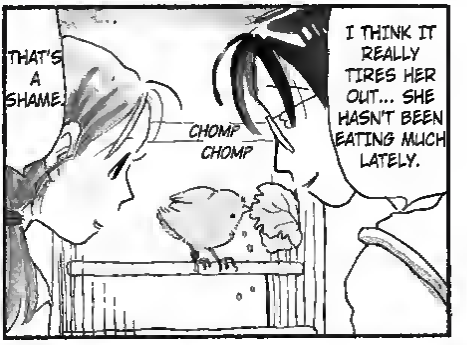

AND UNDER THE LIGHT OF THE BALD LIGHT BULBS, MULTICOLORED BABY CHICKS AT A SUMMER FESTIVAL...
THE DISTANT SUMMER DAYS PERMEATED WITH THE SCENT OF COTTON CANDY AND THE SOUND OF WOODEN SANDALS.


DO THEY LOOK BAD?
HUH?
OH NO OH NO
FLOOP

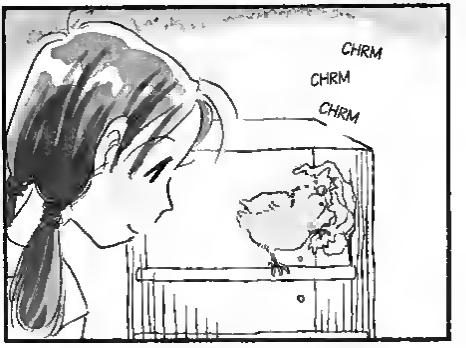

AH, ALL THE FEATHERS MOLTED OFF...
KANAKO, WHERE'D YOUR TAIL GO!?

HERE- OH, PIPPIRA.
AH WHAT, OWWWW
SLIP SLIDE

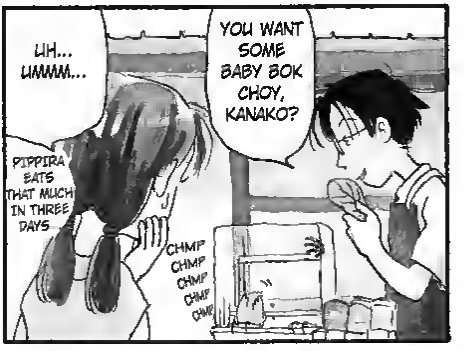

HERE YOU GO. CAB-BAGE
CANARIES MOLT IN A VERY SHORT TIME AND A CENTRALIZED WAY.


THAT'S A SHAME.
CHOMP CHOMP
I THINK IT REALLY TIRES HER OUT... SHE HASN'T BEEN EATING MUCH LATELY.

AND SO PIPPIRA GREW NEW TERTIARY FEATH-ERS ON HIS WINGS.

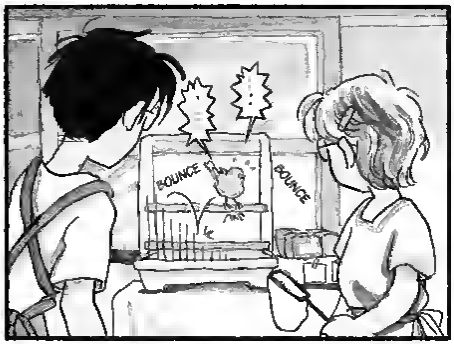

CHRM
CHRM
CHRM

DO I STILL HAVE TO DO THIS?
BUT ACTU-ALLY, HE WAS NOT YET FULLY FEATHERED.


UH... UMMM...
YOU WANT SOME BABY BOK CHOY, KANAKO?
PIPPIRA EATS THAT MUCH IN THREE DAYS
CHMP CHMP CHMP CHMP CHMP

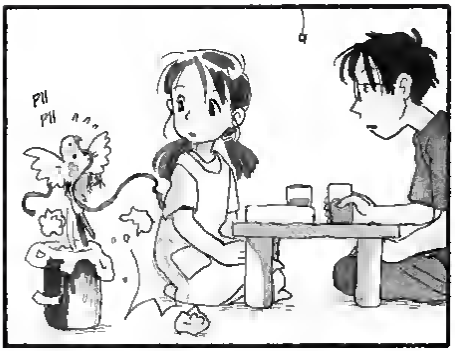
THOUGH HE WAS LOOKING FOR A WHILE, TSUNA FINALLY FOUND A JOB.
I WISH THE STORE WERE MORE PROFIT-ABLE, SO WE COULD KEEP YOU ON FULL-TIME.

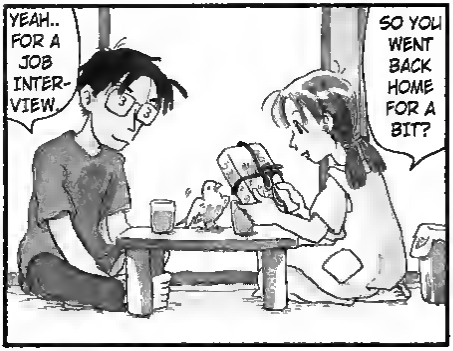
AUNTIE.
I'LL WORK HARD!
WITH YOU GONE, DELIVERIES AND TAKING CARE OF THE PETS WILL BE TOUGH.

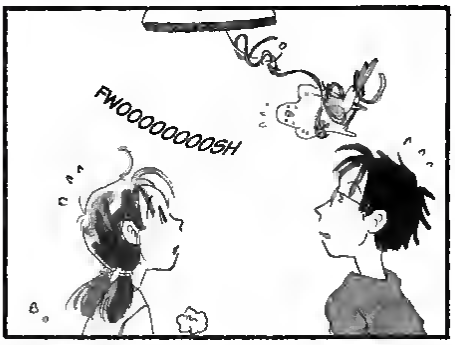

BOUNCE
BOUNCE

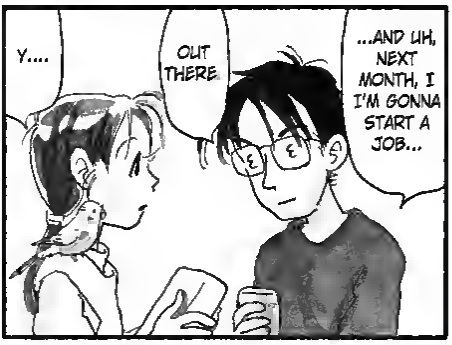
YOU CAN'T DO IT, KANAKO.

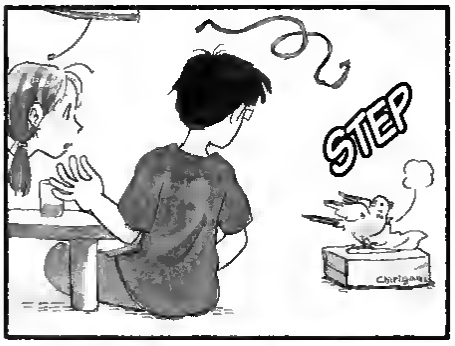
PART 64

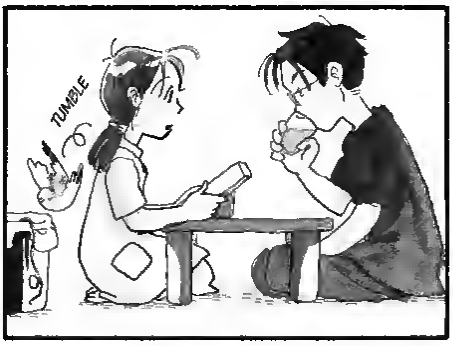

PII
PII

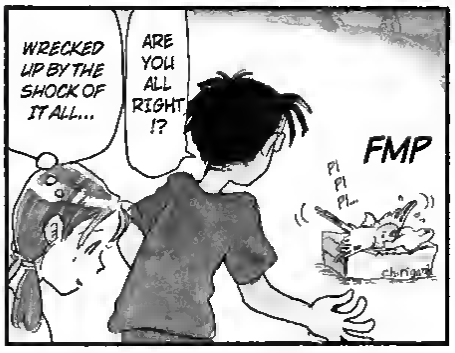

YEAH.. FOR A JOB INTER-VIEW.
SO YOU WENT BACK HOME FOR A BIT?

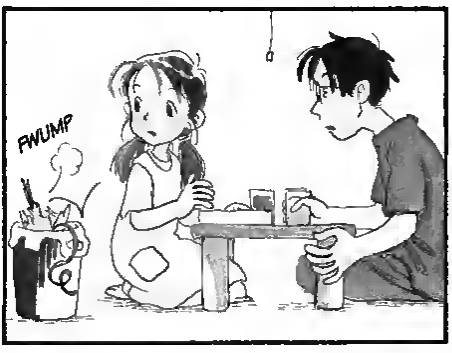

FWOOOOOOOSH


Y....
OUT THERE
...AND UH, NEXT MONTH, I I'M GONNA START A JOB...


STEP
chirigami


TUMBLE


WRECKED UP BY THE SHOCK OF IT ALL...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?
FMP
PI PI PI
chirigami


FWUMP

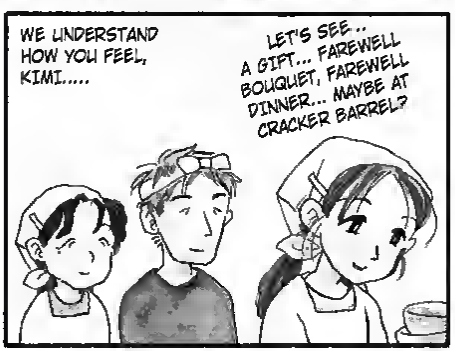
TSU-NA...
I'M SO HAPPY TO HAVE MET...
KIMI-KO...

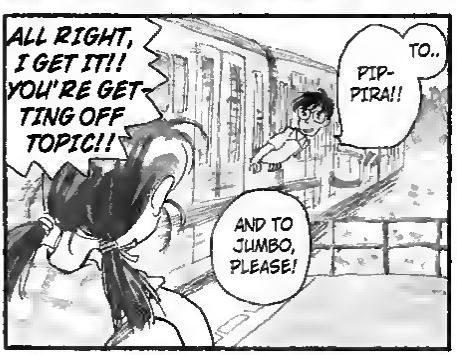
WELL, I MEAN... I'M SAD, BUT...
YOU MUST BE SAD ABOUT THAT, KIMI...
I HEARD THE KID FROM THE PET STORE'S GOING BACK TO THE COUNTRY!?

S-SURE.
AH!
TO KANA-KO?
FOR ME?
...HER! CAN YOU... TELL THAT..

....
I SHOULD GIVE HIM A GOODBYE PRESENT...
WELL, HE GOT A JOB, YOU KNOW? IT'S A HAPPY THING, ISN'T IT?

.....
.....
AND UM... ALSO...


WE UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL, KIMI.....
LET'S SEE.. A GIFT... FAREWELL BOUQUET, FAREWELL DINNER... MAYBE AT CRACKER BARREL?


ALL RIGHT, I GET IT!! YOU'RE GET-TING OFF TOPIC!!
TO..
PIP-PIRA!!
AND TO JUMBO, PLEASE!

YOU ARE A BAD INFLU-ENCE, HONEY.
AH, I KNEW IT!!
NEXT DAY
HAHA, FOR SOME REASON I REALLY WANTED TO EAT CRACKERS!

DEAR TSUNAYOSHI,

IT'S A HOT DAY TODAY... HOW ARE YOU? HAVE YOU GOTTEN USED TO YOUR LIFE OVER THERE YET?

BY THE WAY, LATELY I'VE BEEN SEEING THIS STRANGE THING.

PIPPIRA'S BEAK HAS BEEN BECOMING SORT OF CURVED AND

WHEN HE BITES INTO STUFF, IT SORT OF LOOKS WEIRD LIKE THIS.

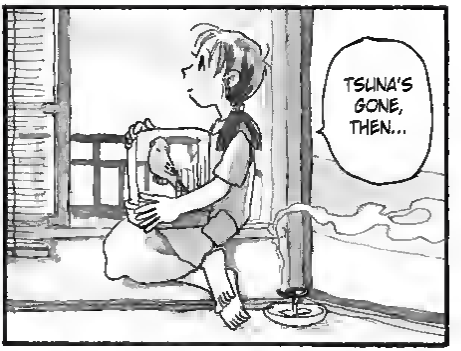
AND SO HE'S SORT OF STOPPED GNAWING ON STUFF. IT LEAVES A MARK LIKE THIS.

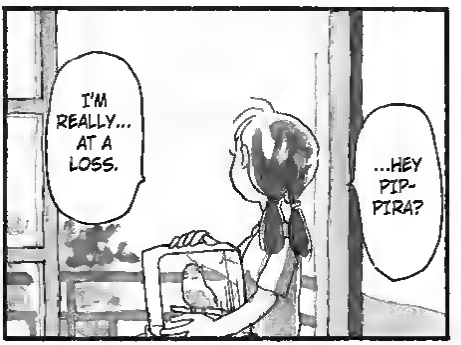
THIS IS HIS USUAL BITE MARK.

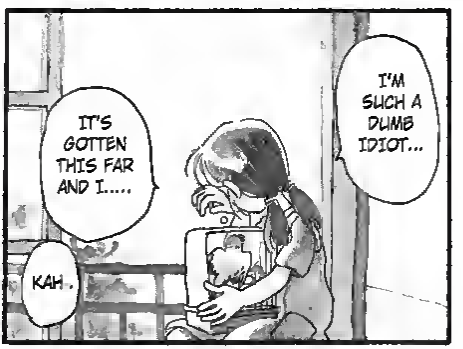
C'MON!

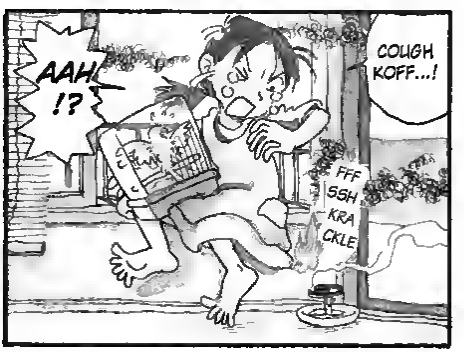
W, AS USUAL, IS BEING A LITTLE BOY.

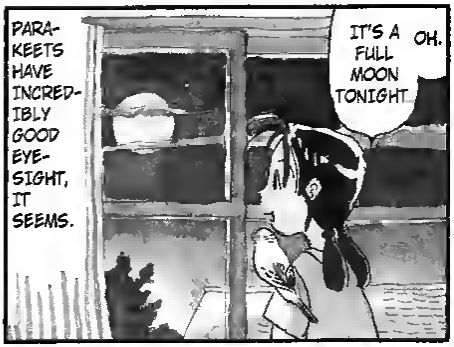
ANYHOW, AS USUAL, PIPPIRA IS BEING A NAUGHTY LITTLE BOY... IS WHAT IT ORIGINALLY SAID.

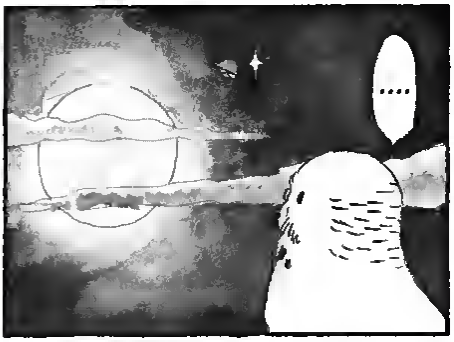


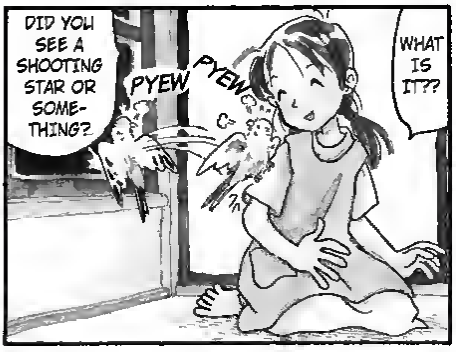







PARA-
KEETS
HAVE
INCRED-
IBLY
GOOD
EYE-
SIGHT,
IT
SEEMS.
IT'S A
FULL
MOON
TONIGHT.
OH.

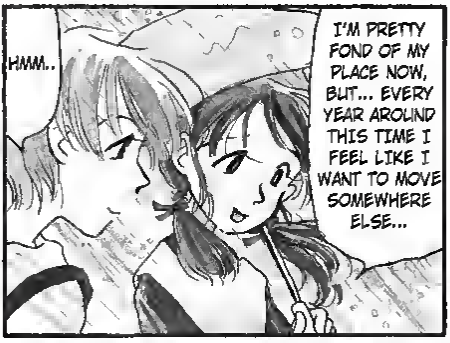

....

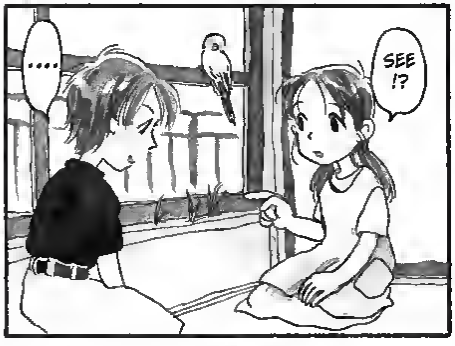

DID YOU
SEE A
SHOOTING
STAR OR
SOME-
THING?
PYEW
PYEW
WHAT
IS
IT??

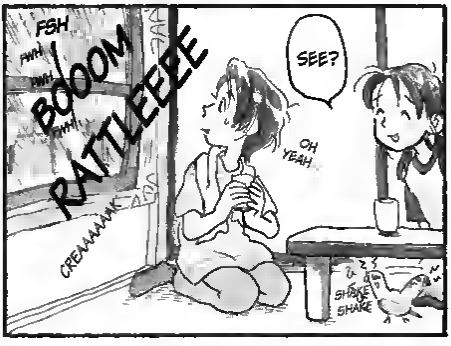
PART 65

YEAH.
TSUNA REALLY WENT BACK TO HIS HOMETOWN?
OH?
BUT NO MATTER HOW GOOD THEIR EYESIGHT IS...
HERE, KEI~
I WAS OFF AT THE SUMMER COTTAGE WITH MY BROTHER AND COUSIN...
KEI!
KEI!
?
MAN, KIMI, I GOT MY OWN THINGS TO BE SAD ABOUT.
IF YOU COVER UP THEIR VIEW, THEY CAN'T SEE A THING.
CHI
CHI
CHI
CHI
OKAY, BEDTIME!

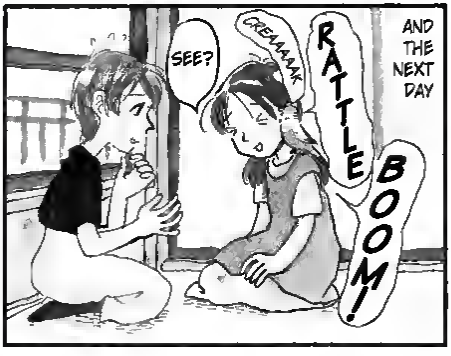
AND SOME DAYS LATER

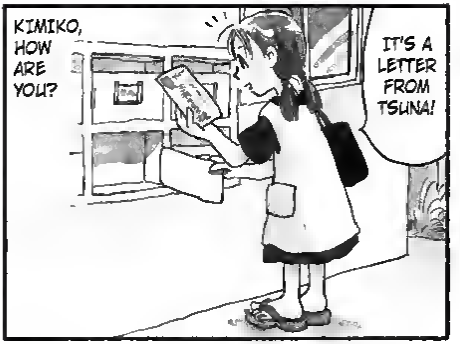

HMM..
I'M PRETTY FOND OF MY PLACE NOW, BUT... EVERY YEAR AROUND THIS TIME I FEEL LIKE I WANT TO MOVE SOMEWHERE ELSE...

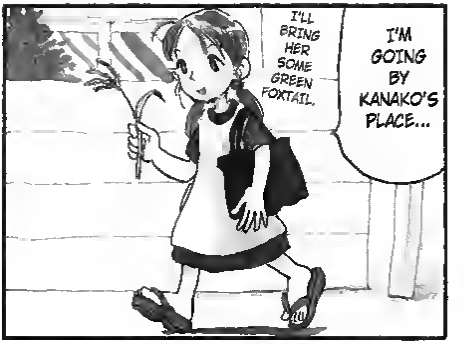

....
SEE !?

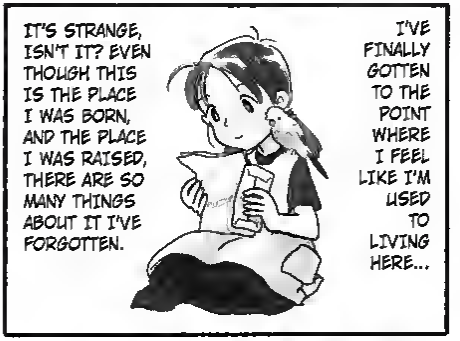

FSH
BOOOM
RATTLEEEE
CREAAAAAAK
SEE?
OH YEAH
SHAKE SHAKE

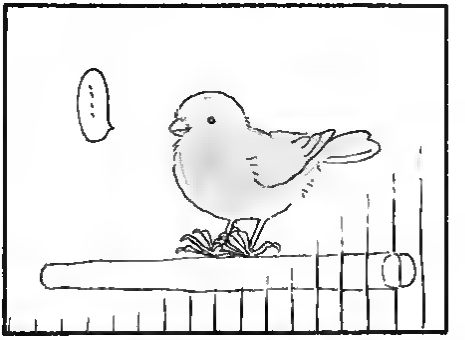
PLUCK IT OUT !!
SEE !?
AND A FEW MORE DAYS LA-TER


SEE?
CREAAAAAK
RATTLE
BOOOM!
AND THE NEXT DAY


KIMIKO, HOW ARE YOU?
IT'S A LETTER FROM TSUNA!

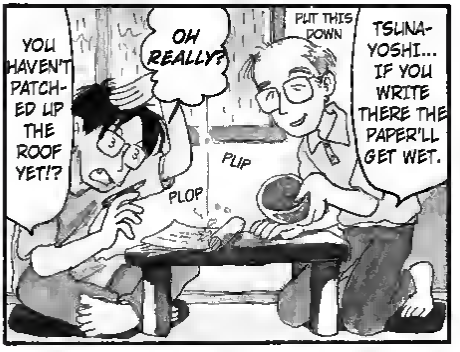

I'M GOING BY KANAKO'S PLACE...
I'LL BRING HER SOME GREEN FOXTAIL.

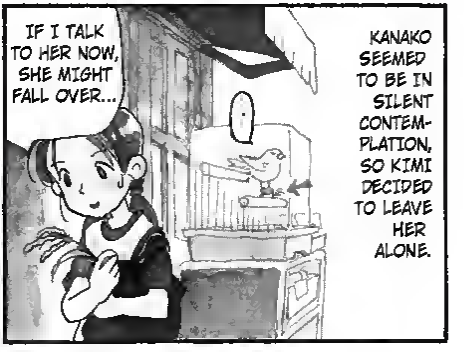

IT'S STRANGE, ISN'T IT? EVEN THOUGH THIS IS THE PLACE I WAS BORN, AND THE PLACE I WAS RAISED, THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS ABOUT IT I'VE FORGOTTEN.
I'VE FINALLY GOTTEN TO THE POINT WHERE I FEEL LIKE I'M USED TO LIVING HERE...



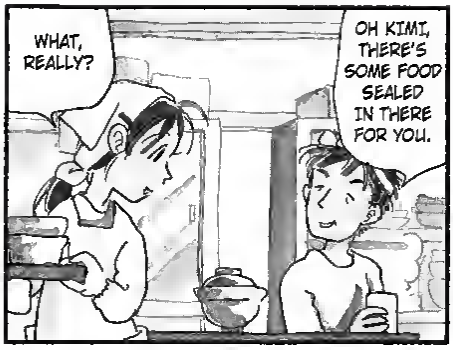
THE LETTERS ARE RUN-NING...
!

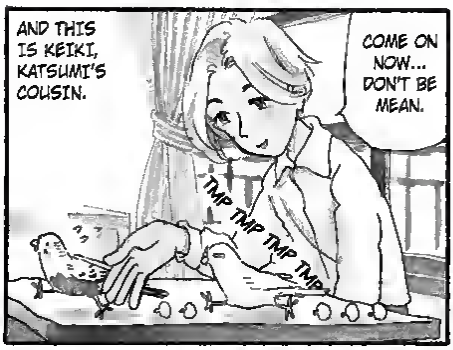
....


YOU HAVEN'T PATCH-ED UP THE ROOF YET!?
OH REALLY?
PUT THIS DOWN
TSUNA-YOSHI... IF YOU WRITE THERE THE PAPER'LL GET WET.
PLIP
PLOP

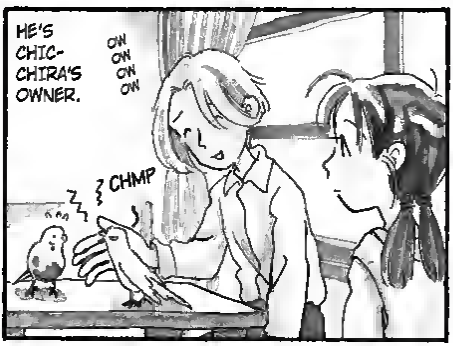

IF I TALK TO HER NOW, SHE MIGHT FALL OVER...
KANAKO SEEMED TO BE IN SILENT CONTEM-PLATION, SO KIMI DECIDED TO LEAVE HER ALONE.

PART 66
CHICCHIRA IS PIPPIRA'S MOTHER...
AND CHICCHIRA IS A VERY STRANGE CREATURE.
SKRCH SKRCH SKRCH SKR SKR
KEHH
KEH KEH
PIPPIRA...
BWUH KWUH! GWEH!!
* HIS CLAW HAS GOTTEN STUCK IN HIS NOSTRIL.
THEREFORE, IF ONE WANTED TO ASK WHAT IS NORMAL FOR THEM, IT MIGHT BE TOUGH TO ANSWER.

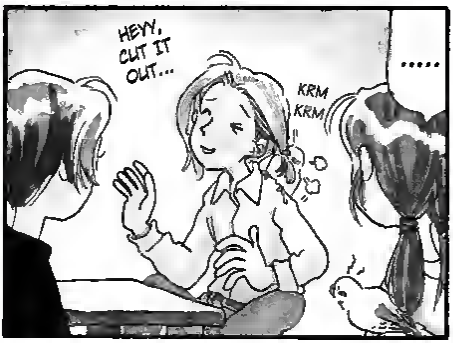

WHAT, REALLY?
OH KIMI, THERE'S SOME FOOD SEALED IN THERE FOR YOU.


AND THIS IS KEIKI, KATSUMI'S COUSIN.
COME ON NOW... DON'T BE MEAN.
TMP TMP TMP TMP

WELL, DON'T MIND IF I DO, THEN!

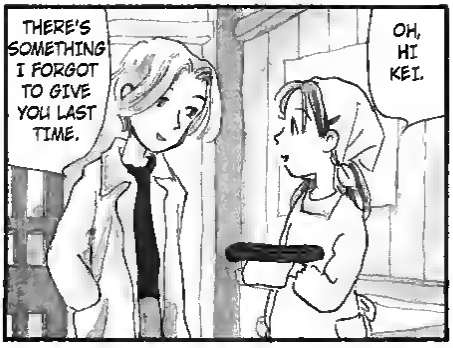

HE'S CHIC-CHIRA'S OWNER.
ON ON ON ON
CHMP

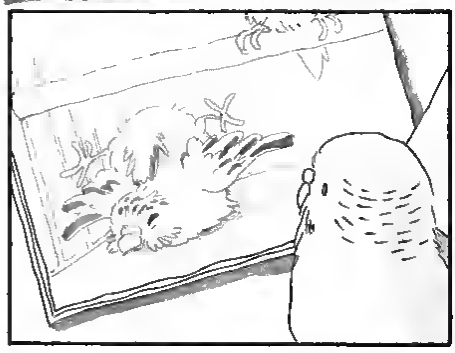
KEEP THE RIVER CLEAN

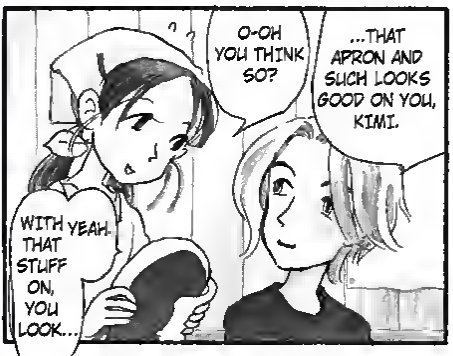

HEYY, CUT IT OUT...
KRM KRM
.....

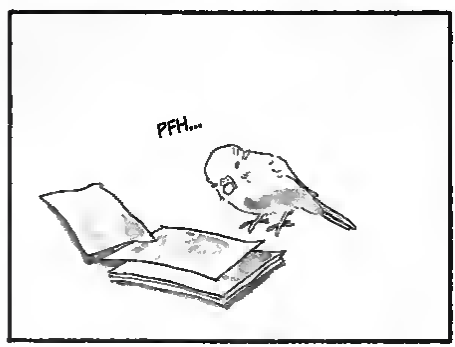
THE SECOND YOU FORGET ABOUT IT, HE GETS YOU AGAIN...
I THOUGHT HE WAS MAKING SOMETHING LAST NIGHT.
"SEALED," YOU SAID.
AHH, MY SHOULDER...

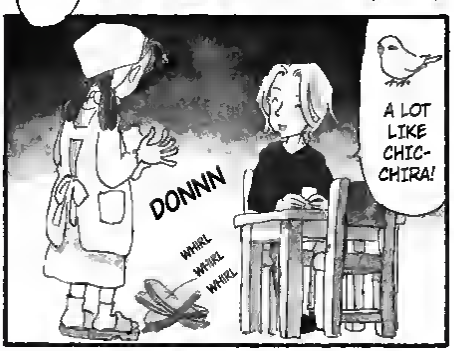
HERE, GO TO SLEEP IN YOUR CAGE
HE IS A VERY GOOD PERSON.
ZZZZZ

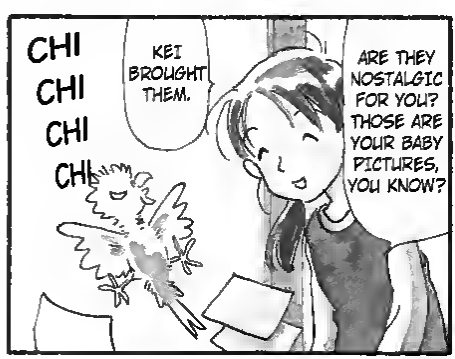

THERE'S SOMETHING I FORGOT TO GIVE YOU LAST TIME.
OH, HI KEI.

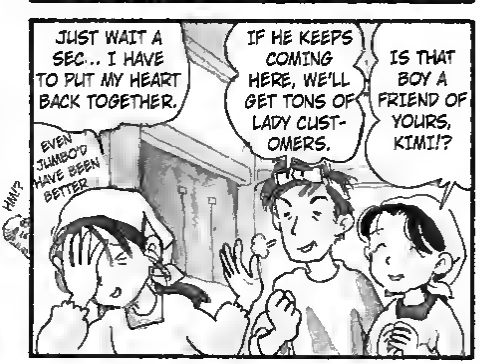



O-OH YOU THINK SO?
...THAT APRON AND SUCH LOOKS GOOD ON YOU, KIMI.
YEAH. WITH THAT STUFF ON, YOU LOOK...

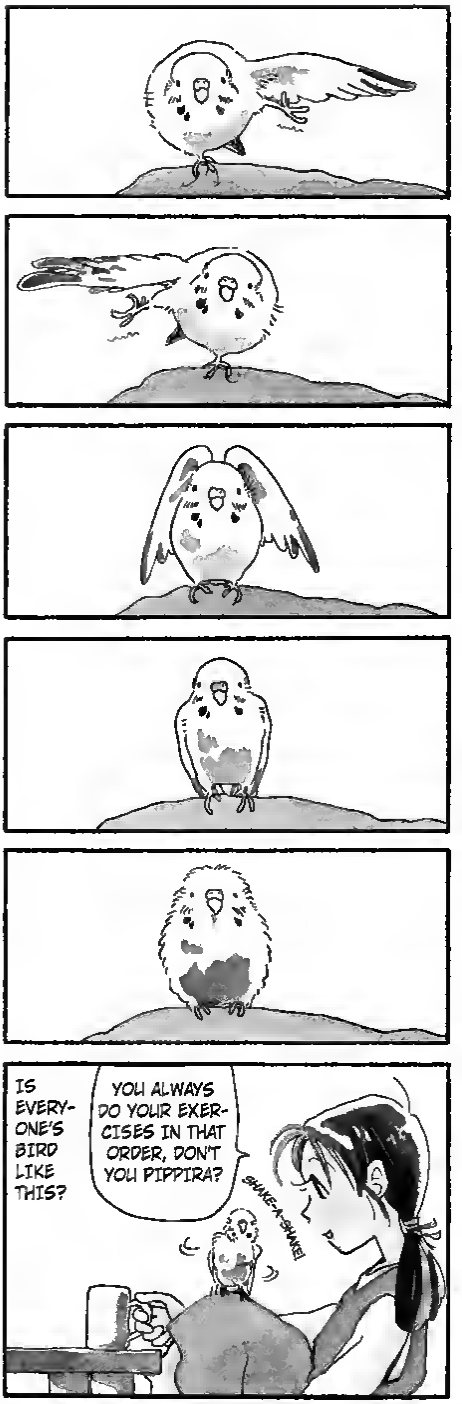

PFH...


DONNN
WHIRL
WHIRL
WHIRL
A LOT LIKE CHIC-CHIRA!


CHI CHI CHI CHI
KEI BROUGHT THEM.
ARE THEY NOSTALGIC FOR YOU? THOSE ARE YOUR BABY PICTURES, YOU KNOW?

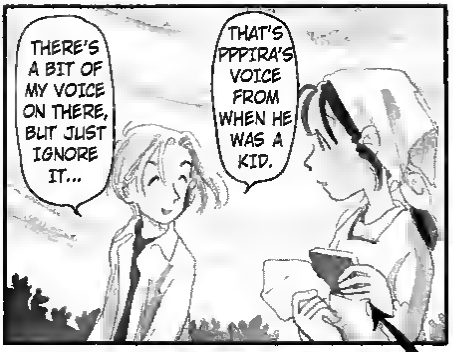

JUST WAIT A SEC... I HAVE TO PUT MY HEART BACK TOGETHER.
IF HE KEEPS COMING HERE, WE'LL GET TONS OF LADY CUST-OMERS.
IS THAT BOY A FRIEND OF YOURS, KIMI!?
EVEN JUMBO'D HAVE BEEN BETTER
HM!?

OH!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
HERE'S SOME MORE PICTURES OF LITTLE PIPPIRA AND ALSO A RECORDING OF HIM.
BIG BROTHER
BIG SISTER
PIPPIRA
KEI...
OH, BUT IF YOU DON'T WANT TO IGNORE IT, THAT'D MAKE ME HAPPY.
MY VOICE IS ON THERE PLUS SOME BACK-GROUND NOISE. IGNORE IT.
...WHAT TO DO...
.....
.....
IT'S A MINI-DISC..
YOU'RE REALLY BAD WITH ELEC-TRON-ICS...
WHAT IS THIS THING!?
I GUESS I SHOULD BUY A COM-PUTER.
PHWEE PHWEE
OH, THIS IS WHY YOU DON'T GET ALONG WITH CHIC-CHIRA...
NOW I GET IT...

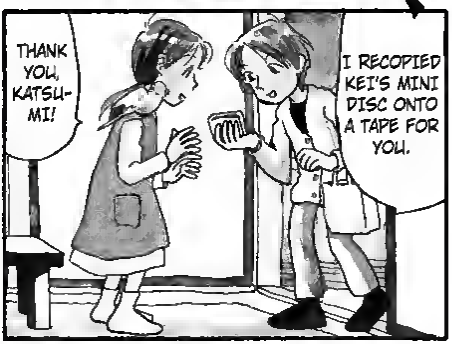

IS EVERY-ONE'S BIRD LIKE THIS?
YOU ALWAYS DO YOUR EXER-CISES IN THAT ORDER, DON'T YOU PIPPIRA?
SHAKE-A-SHAKE!

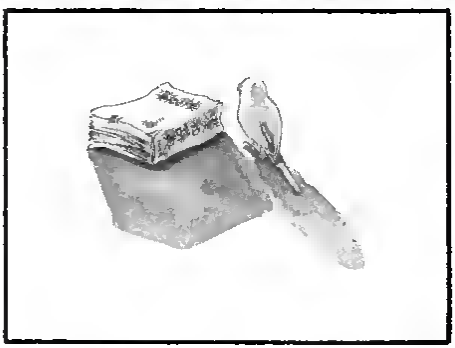
PART 67

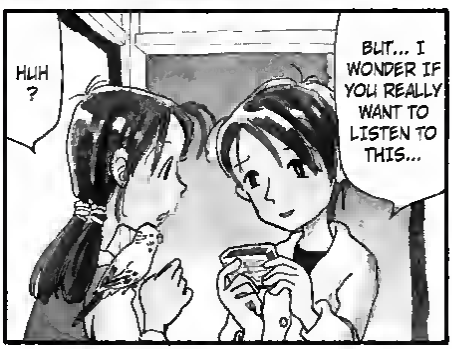
VROOM V.OOM
YEH LESS DO DIS
LESS GOE !!
AS A BOY, HE WAS HUNGRY FOR SOMETHING.

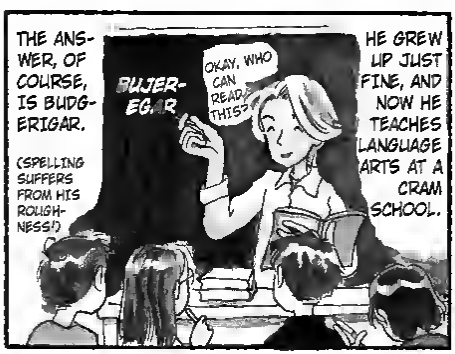

THERE'S A BIT OF MY VOICE ON THERE, BUT JUST IGNORE IT...
THAT'S PPPIRA'S VOICE FROM WHEN HE WAS A KID.

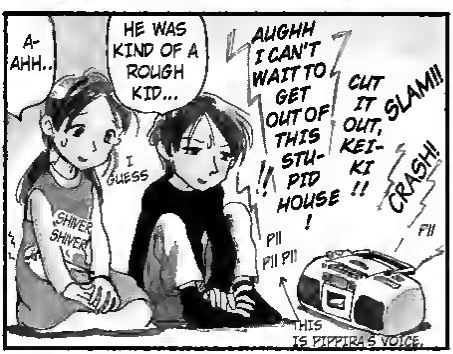
WE GAD-DIT JUS' IN TAIM!!
VROOOOMMM
NOK 'IM OVAH!!
CARLIE RATTLE
PELLETED BY RAIN, BLOWN BY THE WIND, HE SPED THROUGH DARK NIGHTS.

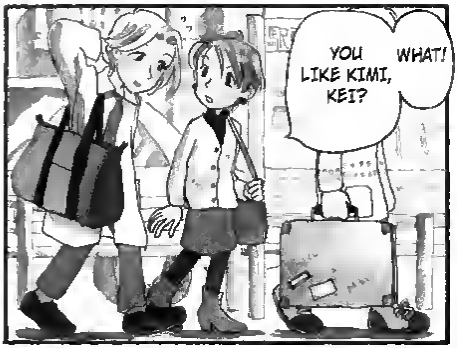

THANK YOU, KATSU-MI!
I RECOPIED KEI'S MINI DISC ONTO A TAPE FOR YOU.




HUH ?
BUT... I WONDER IF YOU REALLY WANT TO LISTEN TO THIS...

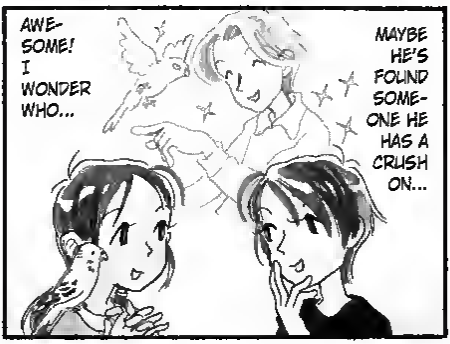

THE ANSWER, OF COURSE, IS BUDGERIGAR.
(SPELLING SUFFERS FROM HIS ROUGHNESS!)
BUJER-EG..R
OKAY, WHO CAN READ THIS?
HE GREW UP JUST FINE, AND NOW HE TEACHES LANGUAGE ARTS AT A CRAM SCHOOL.

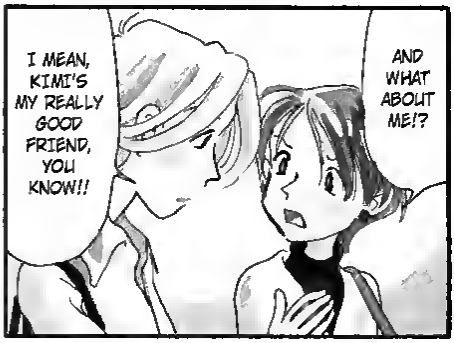

A-AHH..
HE WAS KIND OF A ROUGH KID...
I GUESS
SHIVER SHIVER
AUGHH I CAN'T WAIT TO GET OUT OF THIS STU-PID HOUSE !!
CUT IT OUT, KEI-KI !!
SLAM!!
CRASH!
PII
PII PII
THIS IS PIPPIRA'S VOICE.

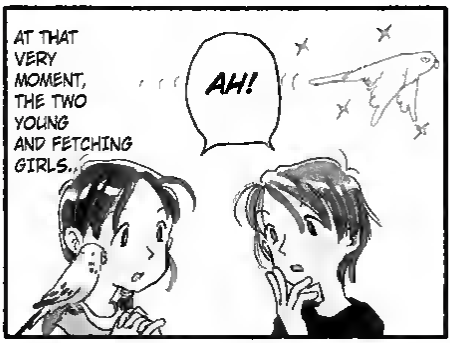

YOU LIKE KIMI, KEI?
WHAT!

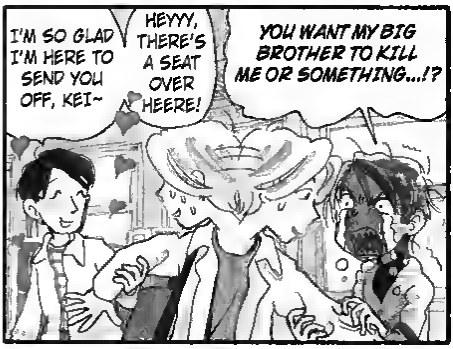
KEI'S BEEN COMING AROUND A LOT LATELY.

...OH REALLY.
SO THAT'S WHY YOU'VE BEEN COMING AROUND.

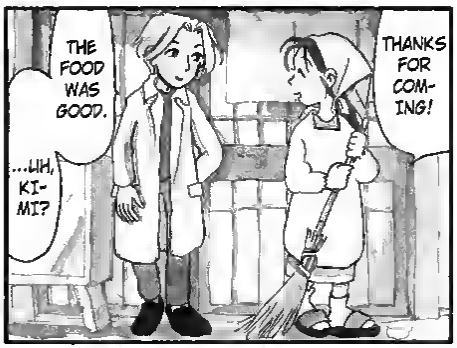

AWESOME! I WONDER WHO...
MAYBE HE'S FOUND SOMEONE HE HAS A CRUSH ON...

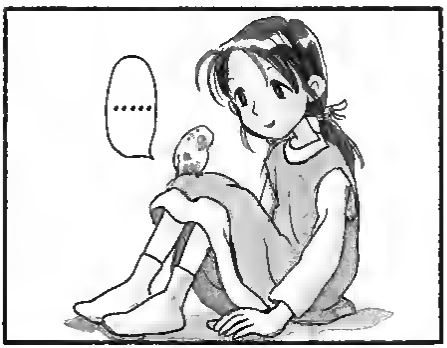

I MEAN, KIMI'S MY REALLY GOOD FRIEND, YOU KNOW!!
AND WHAT ABOUT ME!?

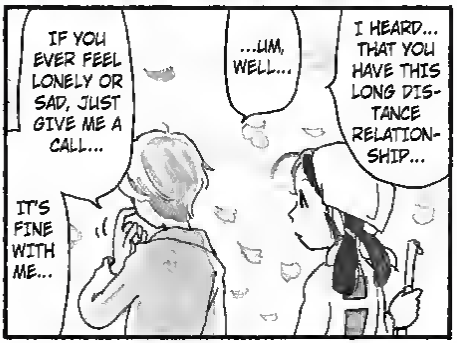

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, THE TWO YOUNG AND FETCHING GIRLS...
AH!

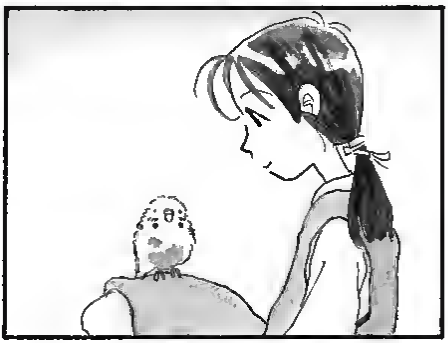

I'M SO GLAD I'M HERE TO SEND YOU OFF, KEI~
HEYYY, THERE'S A SEAT OVER HEERE!
YOU WANT MY BIG BROTHER TO KILL ME OR SOMETHING...!?

THROWING OUT THE VERY IDEA OF SEXINESS, THE TWO OF THEM BECAME CRAZY MOMS INSTEAD.
NO, HE'S GOTTA BE AFTER JUMBO!!
WHAT IF HE WANTS ME TO GIVE HIM BACK!?!
IT COULDN'T BE PIPPIRA, COULD IT?

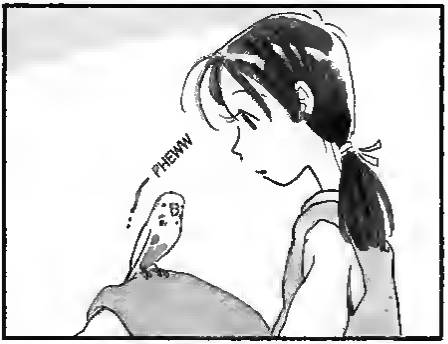

THE FOOD WAS GOOD.
THANKS FOR COMING!
...UH, KIMI?

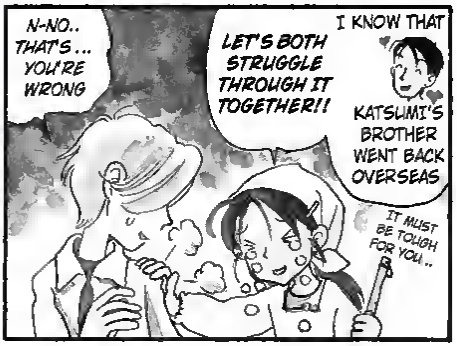

.....


IF YOU EVER FEEL LONELY OR SAD, JUST GIVE ME A CALL...
...UM, WELL...
I HEARD... THAT YOU HAVE THIS LONG DISTANCE RELATIONSHIP...
IT'S FINE WITH ME...

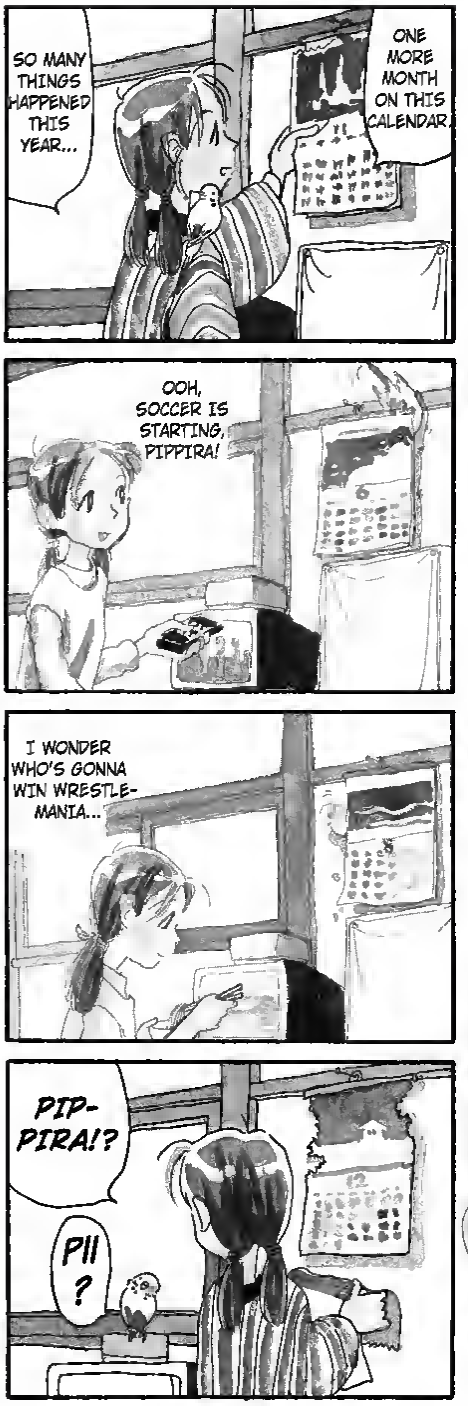


YOU TOO, KEI... IF YOU FEEL SAD...
..OK.


PHEWW

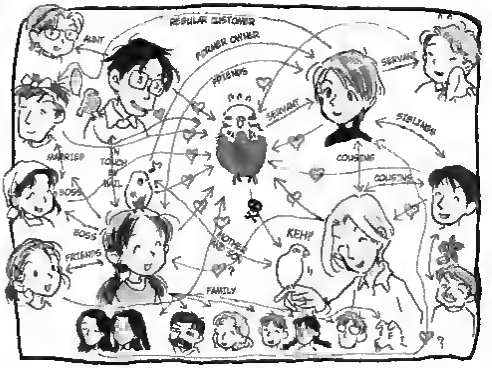

N-NO.. THAT'S... YOU'RE WRONG
LET'S BOTH STRUGGLE THROUGH IT TOGETHER!!
I KNOW THAT KATSUMI'S BROTHER WENT BACK OVERSEAS
IT MUST BE TOUGH FOR YOU..

NNNNGHHH...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORK SO HARD TO CHANGE AROUND!!

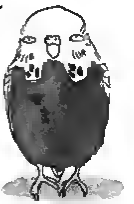

SO MANY THINGS HAPPENED THIS YEAR...
ONE MORE MONTH ON THIS CALENDAR.
OOH, SOCCER IS STARTING, PIPPIRA!
I WONDER WHO'S GONNA WIN WRESTLE-MANIA...
PIP-PIRA!?
PII ?

PART 68

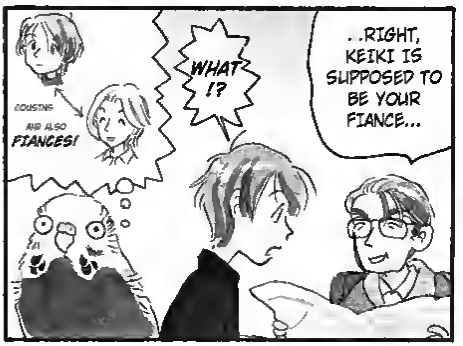
PHEW, I FINALLY FINISHED ALL THE CLEANING!
HUMANS ARE TRULY FOOL-ISH BEINGS...
WOW, THAT'S ROUGH.
END OF YEAR PARTIES ON THIS DAY AND THIS DAY...
NOW, HOW ABOUT WE GO GET SOME TEA, EH PIPPIRA?
I GOT A CARD FROM THEM, BUT SHOULD I INVITE THEM?
I GUESS IT REALLY DOESN'T BOTHER ME WHEN THEY RAISE HELL EVERY TIME THE NEW YEAR COMES AROUND...
HN
WOOPS, I FOR-GOT...
BUT WHY MUST IT ALWAYS BE IN WINTER !?!?
WSHHHH
CHI CHI CHI
CHI
HERE JUMBO, STAY OUT-SIDE FOR A SEC.

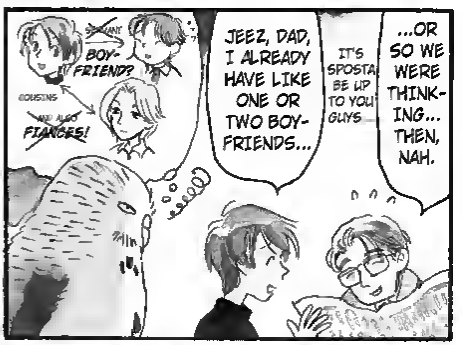


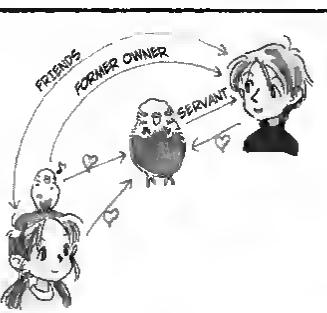
TO THAT END, AS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL AND SHARPEST-WITTED, I HAVE TAKEN IT UPON MYSELF TO CREATE A RELATIONSHIP MAP.



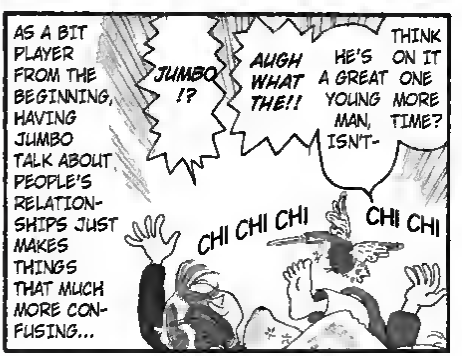
IT IS I, JUMBO BUDGERIGAR. RECENTLY I SENSE THAT THIS STORY HAS BECOME COMPLICATED.

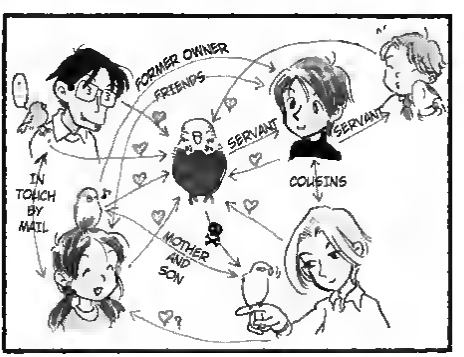


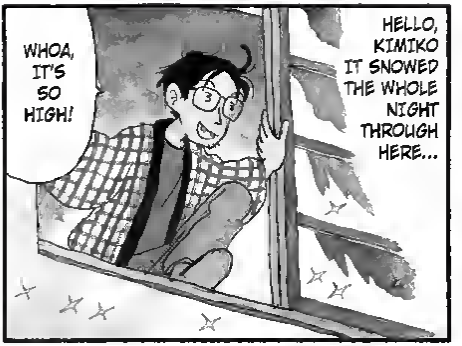

BOY-FRIEND?
COUSINS
AND ALSO
FIANCES!
JEEZ, DAD, I ALREADY HAVE LIKE ONE OR TWO BOY-FRIENDS...
IT'S SPOSTA BE UP TO YOU GUYS
...OR SO WE WERE THINKING... THEN, NAH.



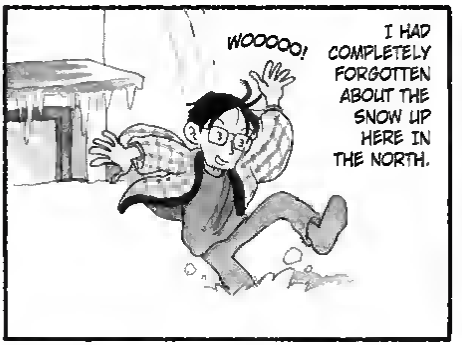
AS A BIT PLAYER FROM THE BEGINNING, HAVING JUMBO TALK ABOUT PEOPLE'S RELATIONSHIPS JUST MAKES THINGS THAT MUCH MORE CONFUSING...

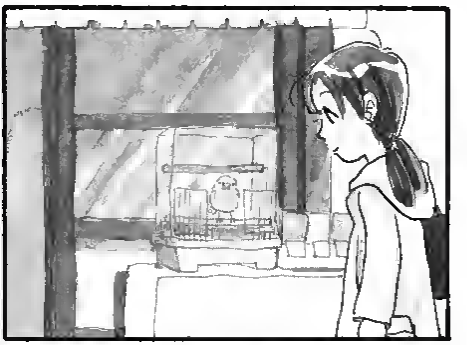


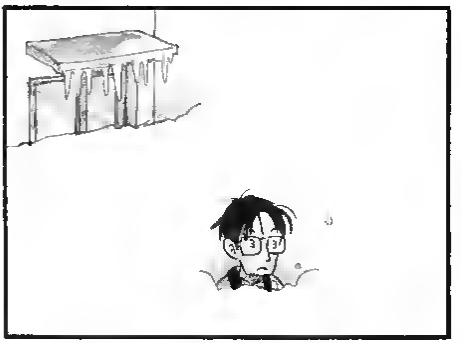



WHOA, IT'S SO HIGH!
HELLO, KIMIKO IT SNOWED THE WHOLE NIGHT THROUGH HERE...

TSUNA, HOW ARE YOU? IT'S A SEASON WHEN SUNLIGHT IS HARD TO COME BY.


WOOOOO!
I HAD COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN ABOUT THE SNOW UP HERE IN THE NORTH.

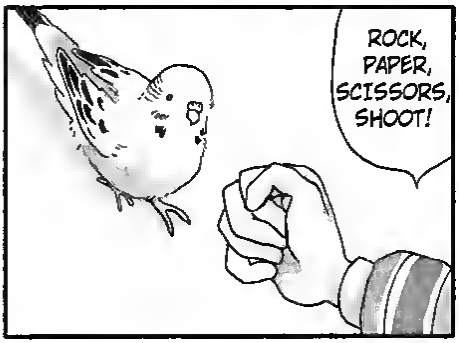


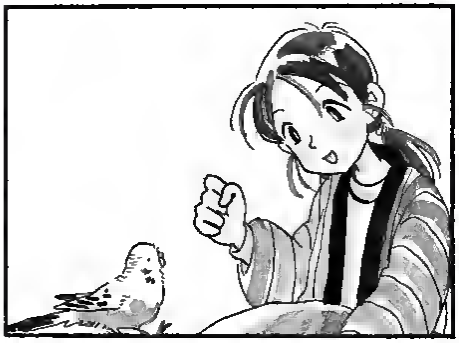


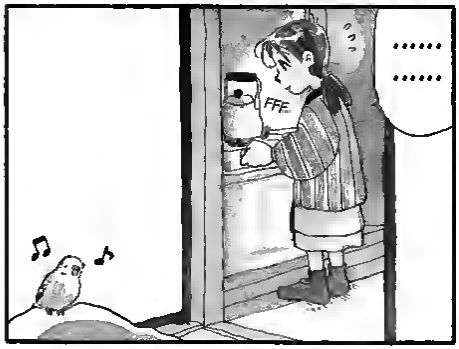
TSUNAYOSHI! HAVE YOU BEEN BURIED HERE SINCE THIS MORNING!?
...AND FOR THAT REASON, I CAUGHT A COLD AND HAD TO TAKE A DAY OFF OF WORK.

SPENDING THE WHOLE DAY IN THE SUN
BUT EVEN IN THE MIDDLE OF WINTER, KANAKO MIGHT BE IN DANGER OF GETTING SUNSTROKE.

OKAY, THE LOSER HAS TO GO MAKE THE TEA, HOW ABOUT IT?
OH, IT'S SO COLD!

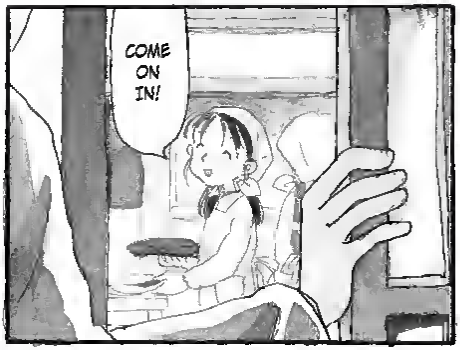

ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS, SHOOT!



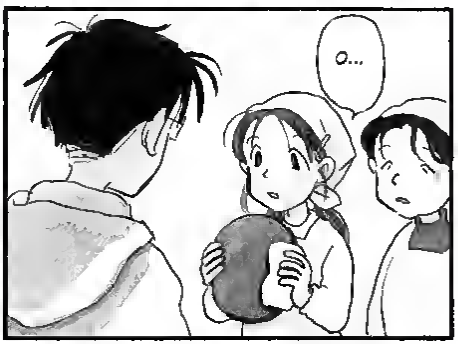

.....
.....
FFF.

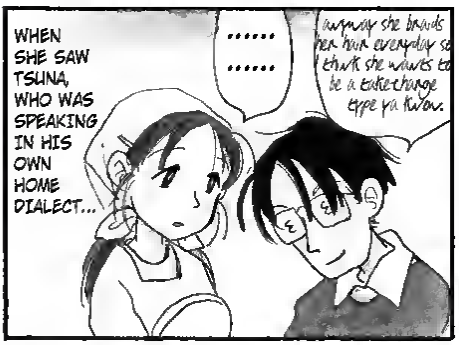
PART 69

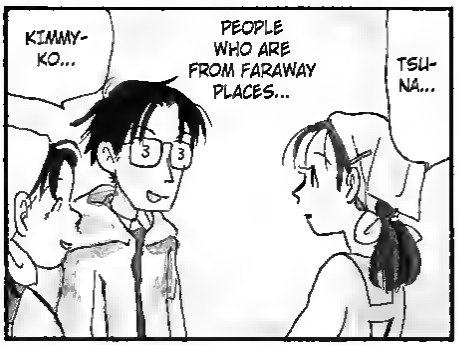
so have we all made our new years resolutions yet?

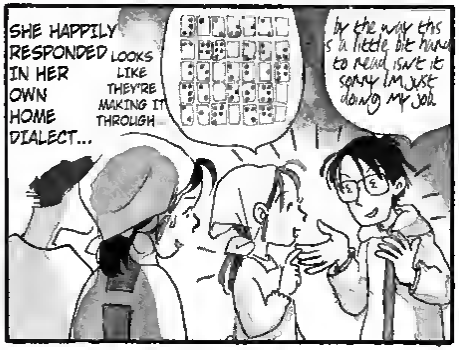

COME ON IN!

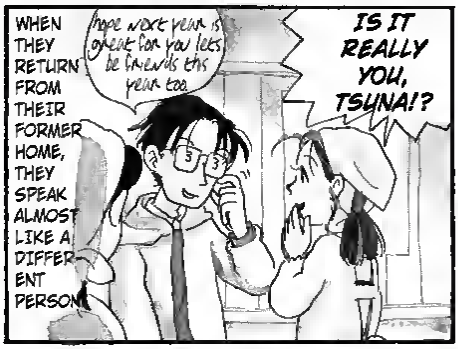
on the other hand I feel like my new job is kind of tough and Im getting to feel like Im clumsy for the first time


O...

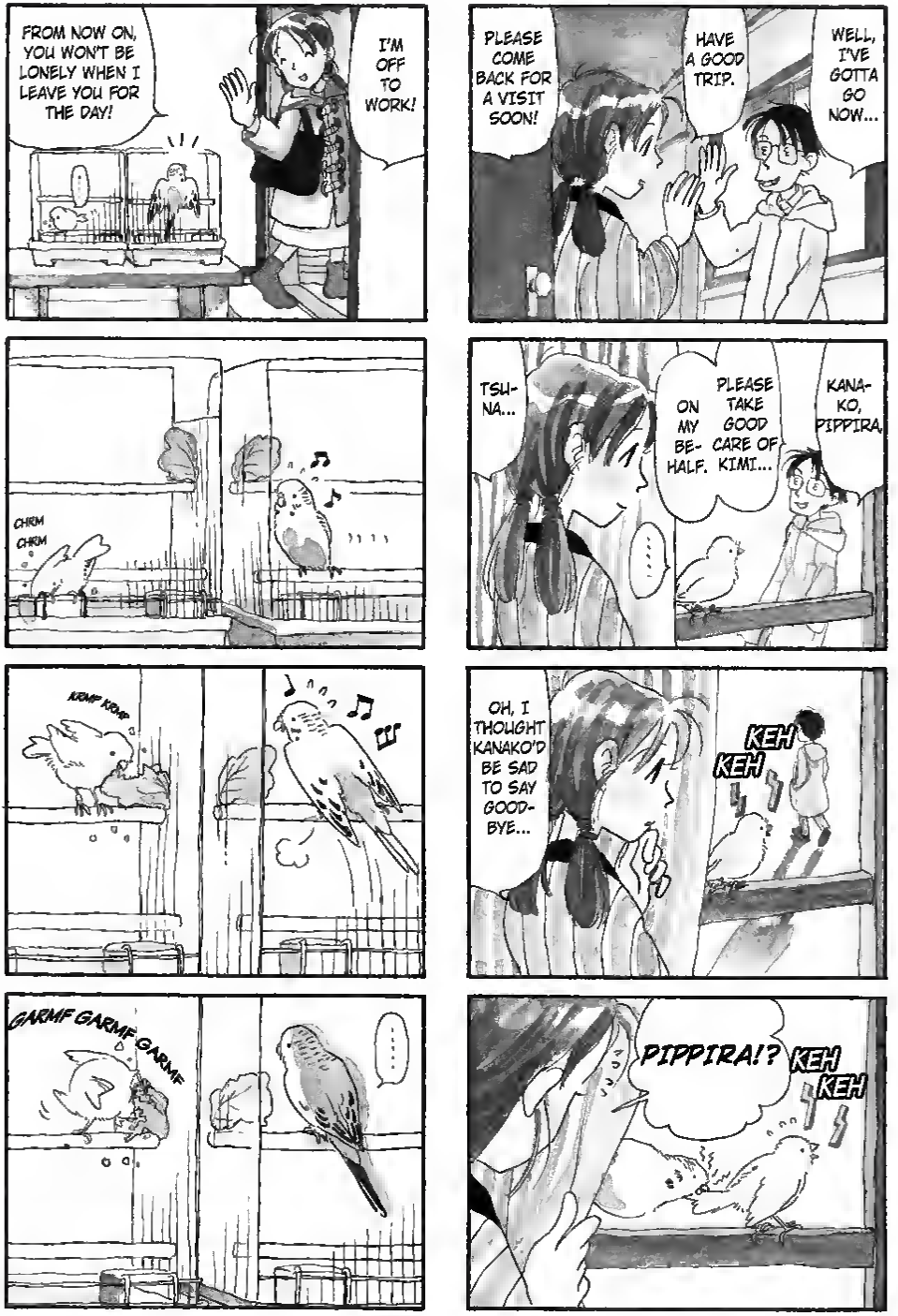

WHEN SHE SAW TSUNA, WHO WAS SPEAKING IN HIS OWN HOME DIALECT...
.....
.....
anyway she braids her hair everyday so I think she wishes to be a totally change type ya know.


KIMMY-KO...
PEOPLE WHO ARE FROM FARAWAY PLACES...
TSU-NA...

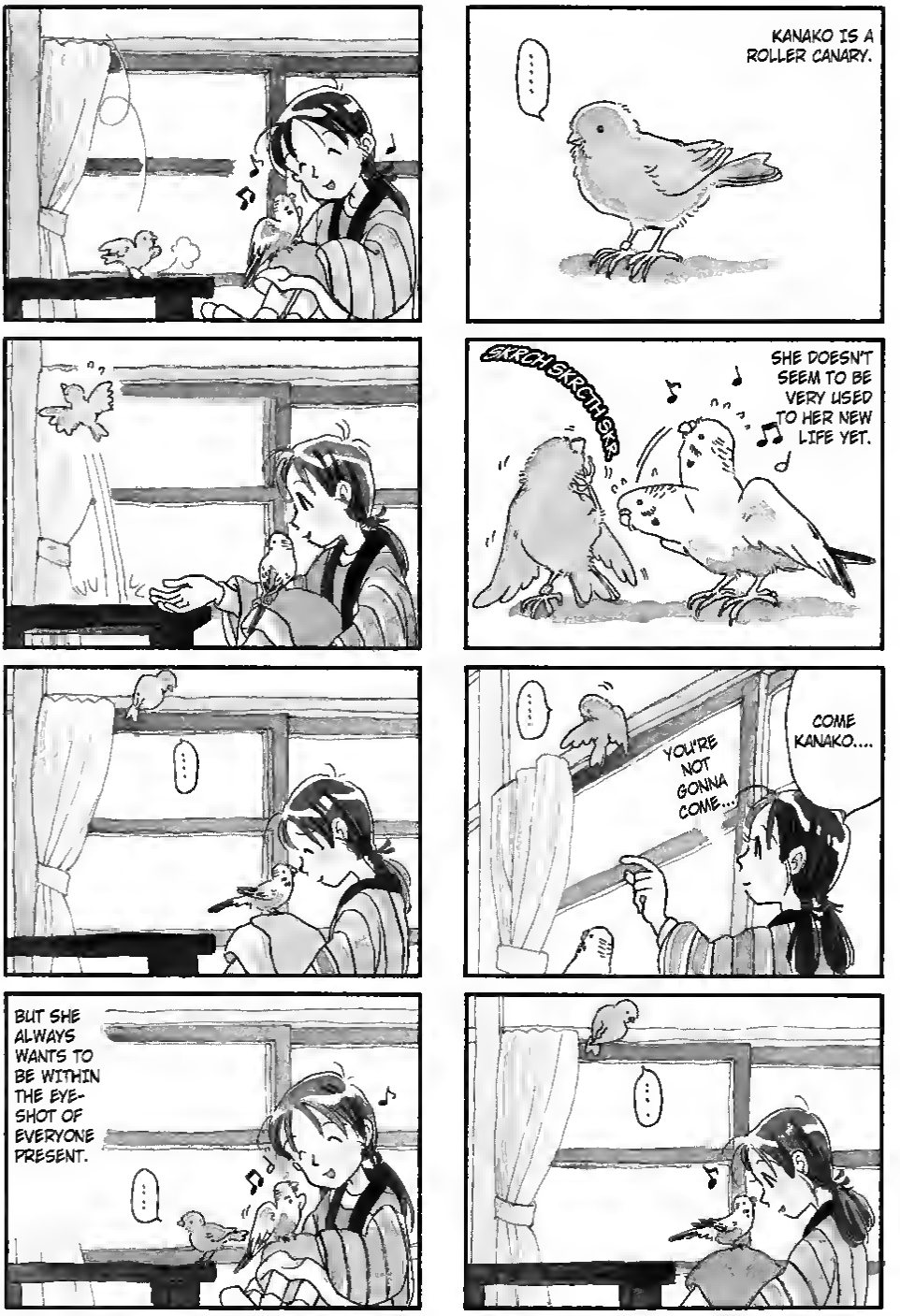

SHE HAPPILY RESPONDED IN HER OWN HOME DIALECT...
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE MAKING IT THROUGH
by the way this is a little bit hard to read isn't it sorry Im just doing my job.

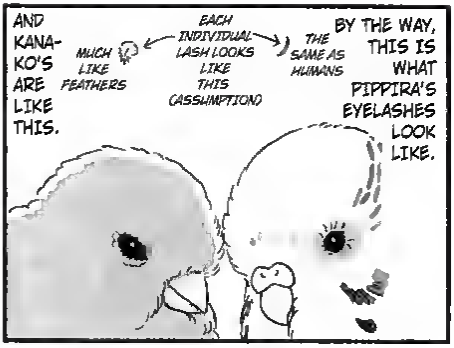

WHEN THEY RETURN FROM THEIR FORMER HOME, THEY SPEAK ALMOST LIKE A DIFFERENT PERSON.
hope next year is great for you lees, be friends this year too.
IS IT REALLY YOU, TSUNA!?

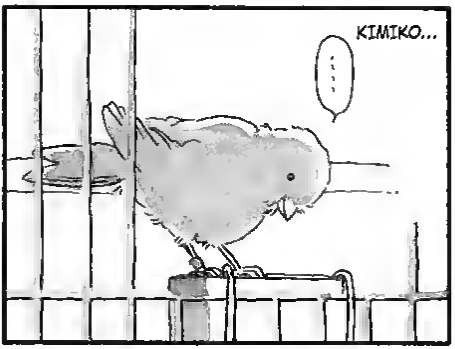
WELL KANAKO, FROM NOW ON LET'S BE FRIENDS
NOD NOD
WH-
I WANT YOU TO TAKE CARE OF KANAKO FOR ME...
KIMI, YOU SEE...
DON'T BE SHY, COME ON OUT AND RELAX WITH US...!
HOP HOP
JUMP!
IS YOUR AUNT OKAY !?
I DON'T MIND DOING THAT, BUT...
MY AUNT HAS TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL AND IT LOOKS LIKE KANDA BIRD SUPPLIES IS GOING TO BE CLOSED FOR A BIT.
BLBLBL
CHRM
CHRM CHRM
WELL, IT ALL DEPENDS ON THE RESULTS OF THE EXAM, BUT UNTIL THEN, MY AUNT....
BUT... NOT IN PIPPIRA'S HOUSE... PLEASE...?
CHI CHI CHI CHI
GOMF GOMF GOMF
HAS DECIDED TO TAKE A SPECIAL TRIP TO THE SOUTH ISLANDS FOR A SKIN DIVING TRAINING CAMP...

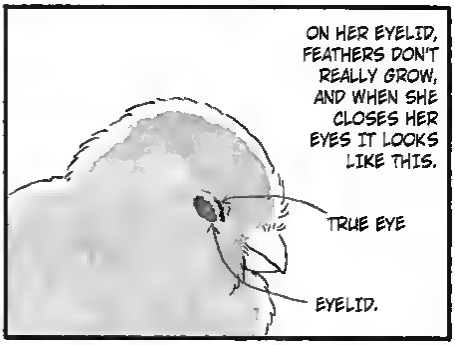

FROM NOW ON, YOU WON'T BE LONELY WHEN I LEAVE YOU FOR THE DAY!
I'M OFF TO WORK!
PLEASE COME BACK FOR A VISIT SOON!
HAVE A GOOD TRIP.
WELL, I'VE GOTTA GO NOW...
CHRM CHRM
TSU-NA...
ON MY BE-HALF.
PLEASE TAKE GOOD CARE OF KIMI...
KANA-KO, PIPPIRA.
KRMF KRMF
OH, I THOUGHT KANAKO'D BE SAD TO SAY GOOD-BYE...
KEH KEH
GARMF GARMF GARMF
PIPPIRA!?
KEH KEH

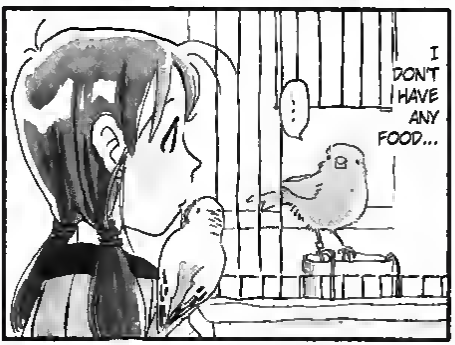
PART 70
YEAH! IT'S FUN.
SO KIMI, I HEAR YOU'VE GOT A CANARY NOW?
.....
.....
THAT MUST BE NICE... TO BE SURROUNDED BY BIRD-SONG...
SHE THOUGHT THERE WAS NO POINT IN RUINING SOMEONE'S PLEASANT DREAM, SO SHE DIDN'T SAY A THING ABOUT IT, BUT...
AT THAT TIME...
AND WHEN A BUDGIE HEARS SOME-THING LIKE THAT, THEY SEEM TO WANT TO IMITATE IT.
NNGH
KEH
KEH
KEH
KEH
JUST BECAUSE THEY'RE A CANARY DOESN'T MEAN THEY CAN SING...

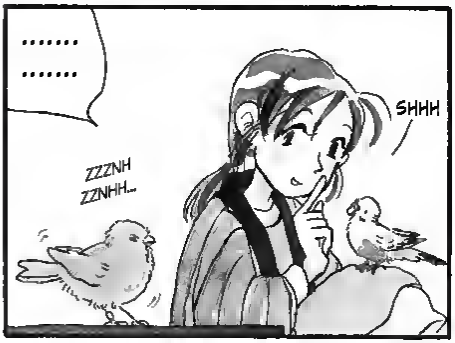

KANAKO IS A ROLLER CANARY.
SKRCH SKRCH SKR
SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE VERY USED TO HER NEW LIFE YET.
COME KANAKO....
YOU'RE NOT GONNA COME...
BUT SHE ALWAYS WANTS TO BE WITHIN THE EYE-SHOT OF EVERYONE PRESENT.

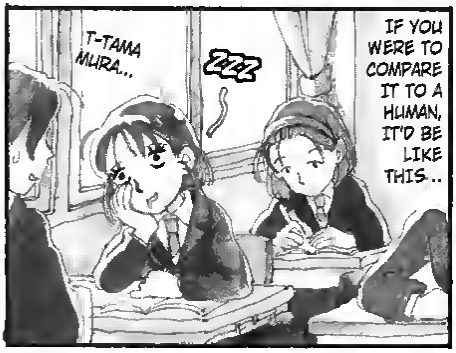

AND KANAKO'S ARE LIKE THIS.
MUCH LIKE FEATHERS
EACH INDIVIDUAL LASH LOOKS LIKE THIS (ASSUMPTION)
THE SAME AS HUMANS
BY THE WAY, THIS IS WHAT PIPPIRA'S EYELASHES LOOK LIKE.


KIMIKO...

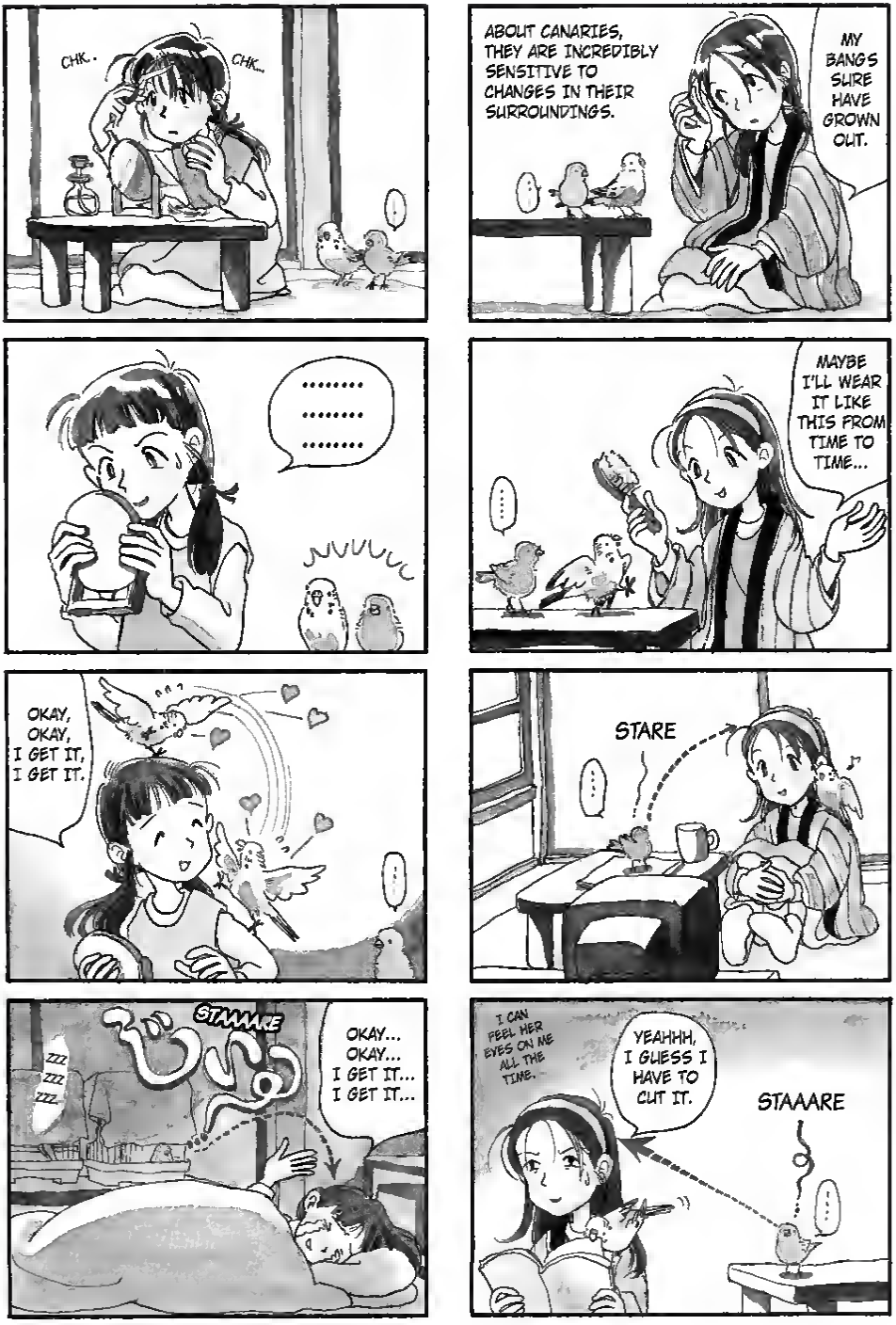

ON HER EYELID, FEATHERS DON'T REALLY GROW, AND WHEN SHE CLOSES HER EYES IT LOOKS LIKE THIS.
TRUE EYE
EYELID.

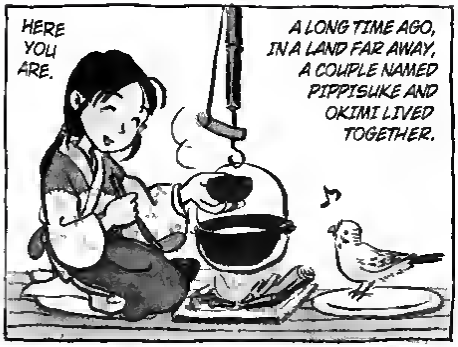

I DON'T HAVE ANY FOOD...

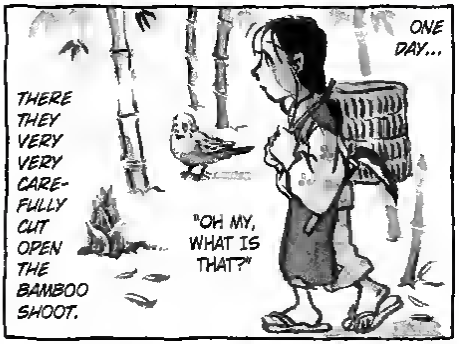

.....
.....
SHHH
ZZZNH ZZNHH...

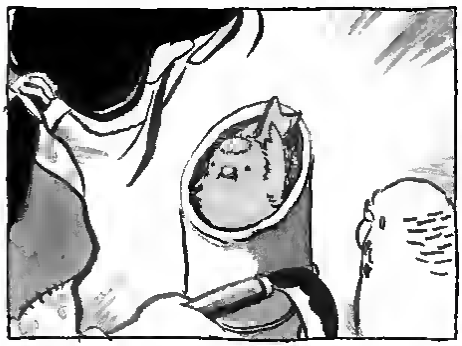

T-TAMA MURA..
ZZZZ
IF YOU WERE TO COMPARE IT TO A HUMAN, IT'D BE LIKE THIS..

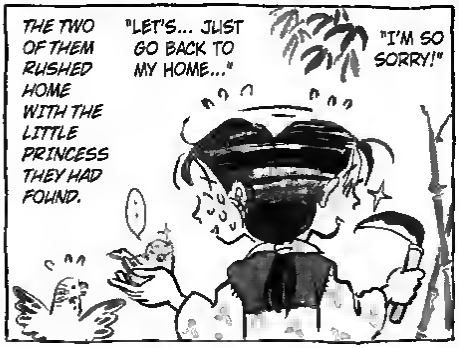
HOWEVER, KANAKO HAS AN AMAZING POWER TO EXPRESS HERSELF WITHOUT WORDS.
.....
.....
THERE IS NONE.


CHK..
CHK..
ABOUT CANARIES, THEY ARE INCREDIBLY SENSITIVE TO CHANGES IN THEIR SURROUNDINGS.
MY BANGS SURE HAVE GROWN OUT.
.....
.....
.....
JUVUUU
MAYBE I'LL WEAR IT LIKE THIS FROM TIME TO TIME...
OKAY, OKAY, I GET IT, I GET IT.
STARE
STAAARE
OKAY... OKAY... I GET IT... I GET IT...
I CAN FEEL HER EYES ON ME ALL THE TIME.
YEAHHH, I GUESS I HAVE TO CUT IT.
STAAARE


HERE YOU ARE.
A LONG TIME AGO, IN A LAND FAR AWAY, A COUPLE NAMED PIPPISUKE AND OKIMI LIVED TOGETHER.

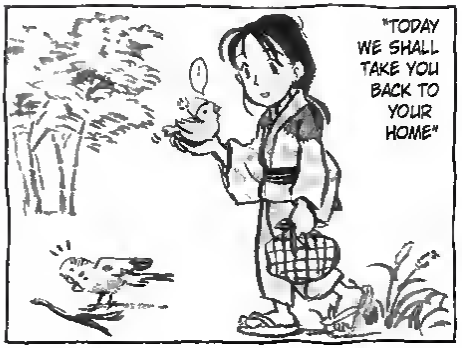

ONE DAY...
THERE THEY VERY VERY CARE-FULLY CUT OPEN THE BAMBOO SHOOT.
"OH MY, WHAT IS THAT?"

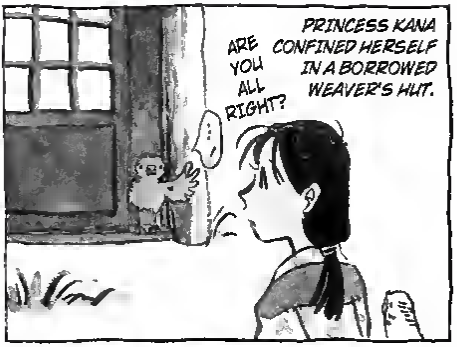


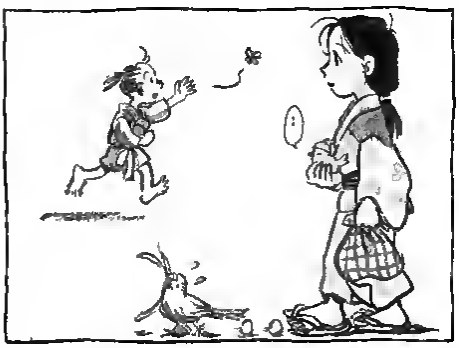

THE TWO OF THEM RUSHED HOME WITH THE LITTLE PRINCESS THEY HAD FOUND.
"LET'S... JUST GO BACK TO MY HOME..."
"I'M SO SORRY!"

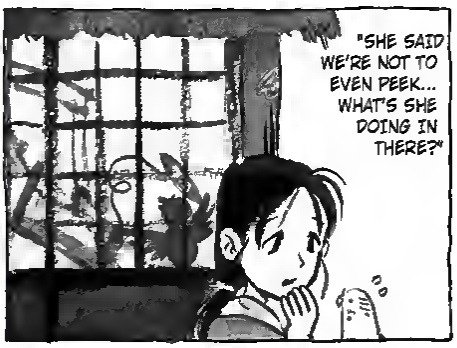
PART 71

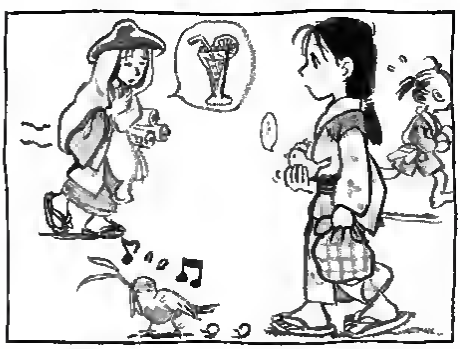
"WELL, WE CAN'T REALLY DO ANYTHING BUT THIS FOR NOW... TAKE THESE MILLET DUMPLINGS I'VE MADE..."
"IF YOU WOULD LIKE, YOU MAY COME HERE TO VISIT ANY TIME YOU WANT."
"THAT WAS FAST!!"
GALLOP
GALLOP
GALLOP

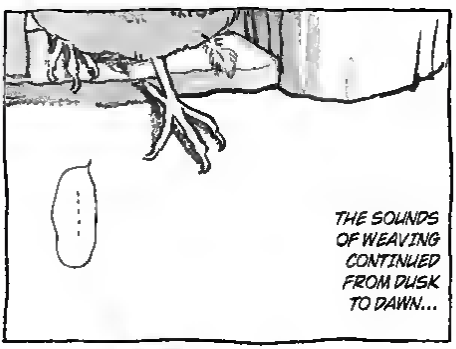

"TODAY WE SHALL TAKE YOU BACK TO YOUR HOME"

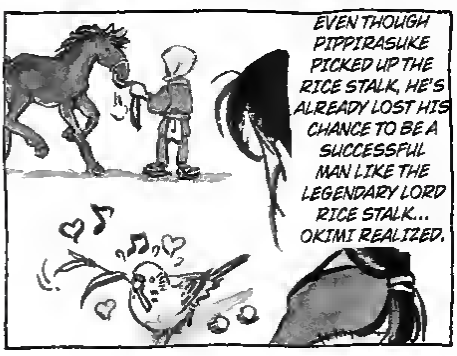

PRINCESS KANA CONFINED HERSELF IN A BORROWED WEAVER'S HUT.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

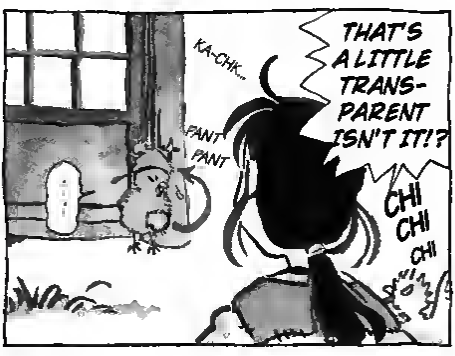


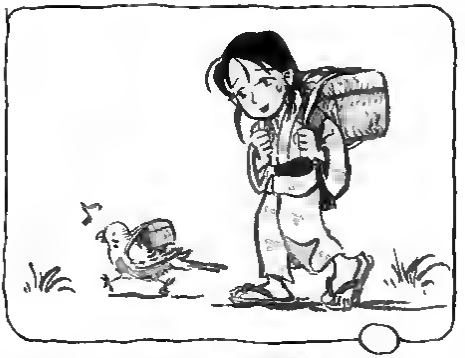

"SHE SAID WE'RE NOT TO EVEN PEEK... WHAT'S SHE DOING IN THERE?"



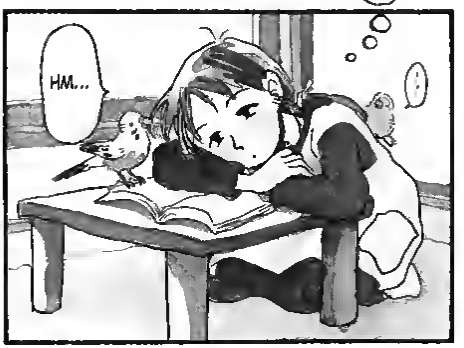

THE SOUNDS OF WEAVING CONTINUED FROM DUSK TO DAWN...

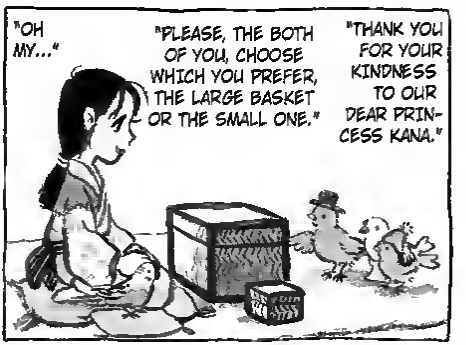

EVEN THOUGH PIPPIRASUKE PICKED UP THE RICE STALK, HE'S ALREADY LOST HIS CHANCE TO BE A SUCCESSFUL MAN LIKE THE LEGENDARY LORD RICE STALK... OKIMI REALIZED.

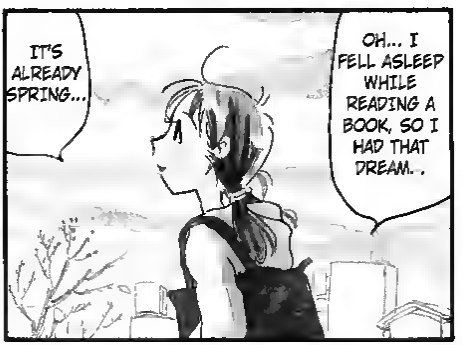

KA-CHK...
PANT PANT
THAT'S A LITTLE TRANS-PARENT ISN'T IT!?
CHI CHI CHI

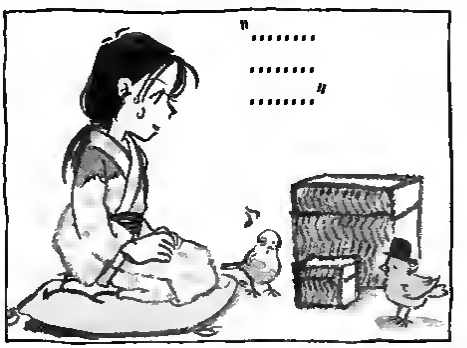


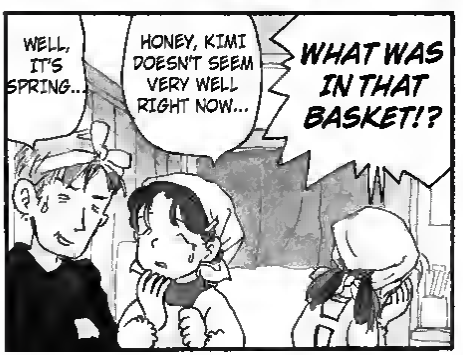
"HEY, PRINCESS KANA!"


HM...

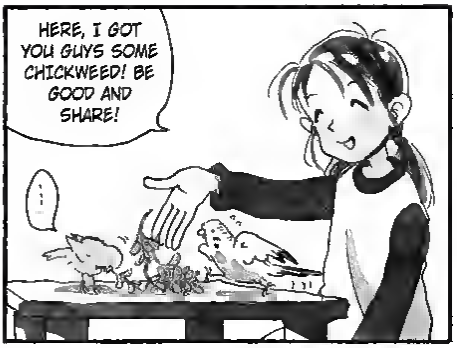

"OH MY..."
"PLEASE, THE BOTH OF YOU, CHOOSE WHICH YOU PREFER, THE LARGE BASKET OR THE SMALL ONE."
"THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS TO OUR DEAR PRINCESS KANA."

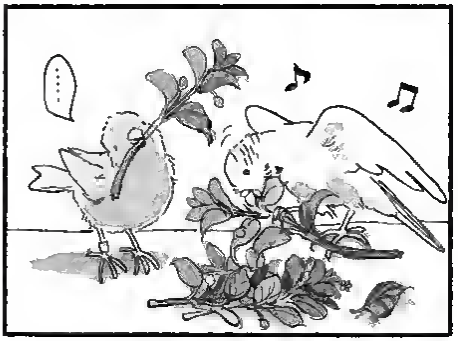

IT'S ALREADY SPRING...
OH... I FELL ASLEEP WHILE READING A BOOK, SO I HAD THAT DREAM..

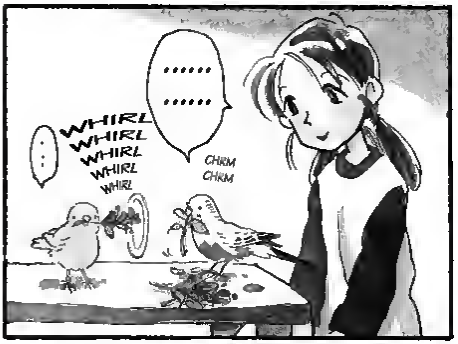

"..... ...."

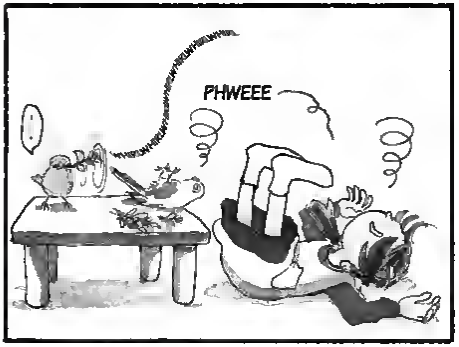

WELL, IT'S SPRING...
HONEY, KIMI DOESN'T SEEM VERY WELL RIGHT NOW...
WHAT WAS IN THAT BASKET!?

"THEN... I'LL TAKE THE BIG ONE..."

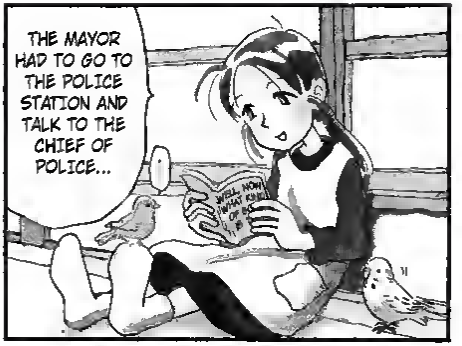

HERE, I GOT YOU GUYS SOME CHICKWEED! BE GOOD AND SHARE!



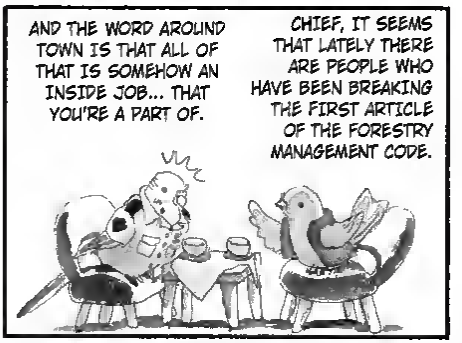

WHIRL WHIRL WHIRL WHIRL WHIRL
CHRM CHRM

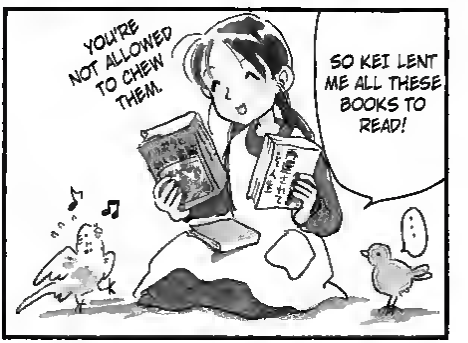

PHWEEE

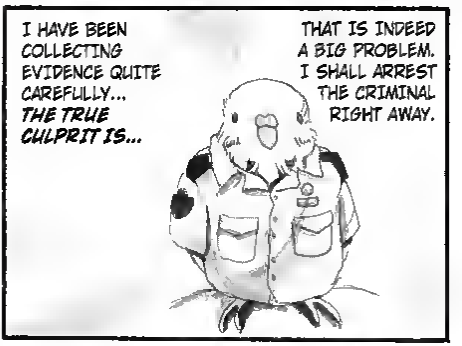
PART 72


THE MAYOR HAD TO GO TO THE POLICE STATION AND TALK TO THE CHIEF OF POLICE...

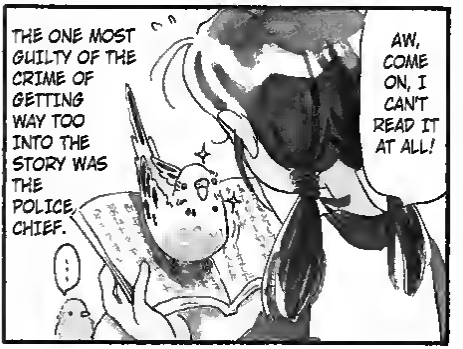
I USED THEM TO TEACH AT THE CRAM SCHOOL.
YEAH? YOU WANNA BORROW THIS TOO?
THIS BOOK YOU LENT ME WAS REALLY GOOD!

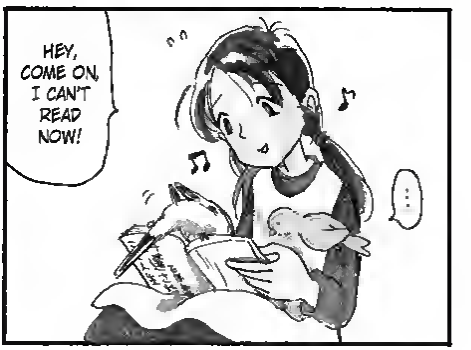

AND THE WORD AROUND TOWN IS THAT ALL OF THAT IS SOMEHOW AN INSIDE JOB... THAT YOU'RE A PART OF.
CHIEF, IT SEEMS THAT LATELY THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN BREAKING THE FIRST ARTICLE OF THE FORESTRY MANAGEMENT CODE.

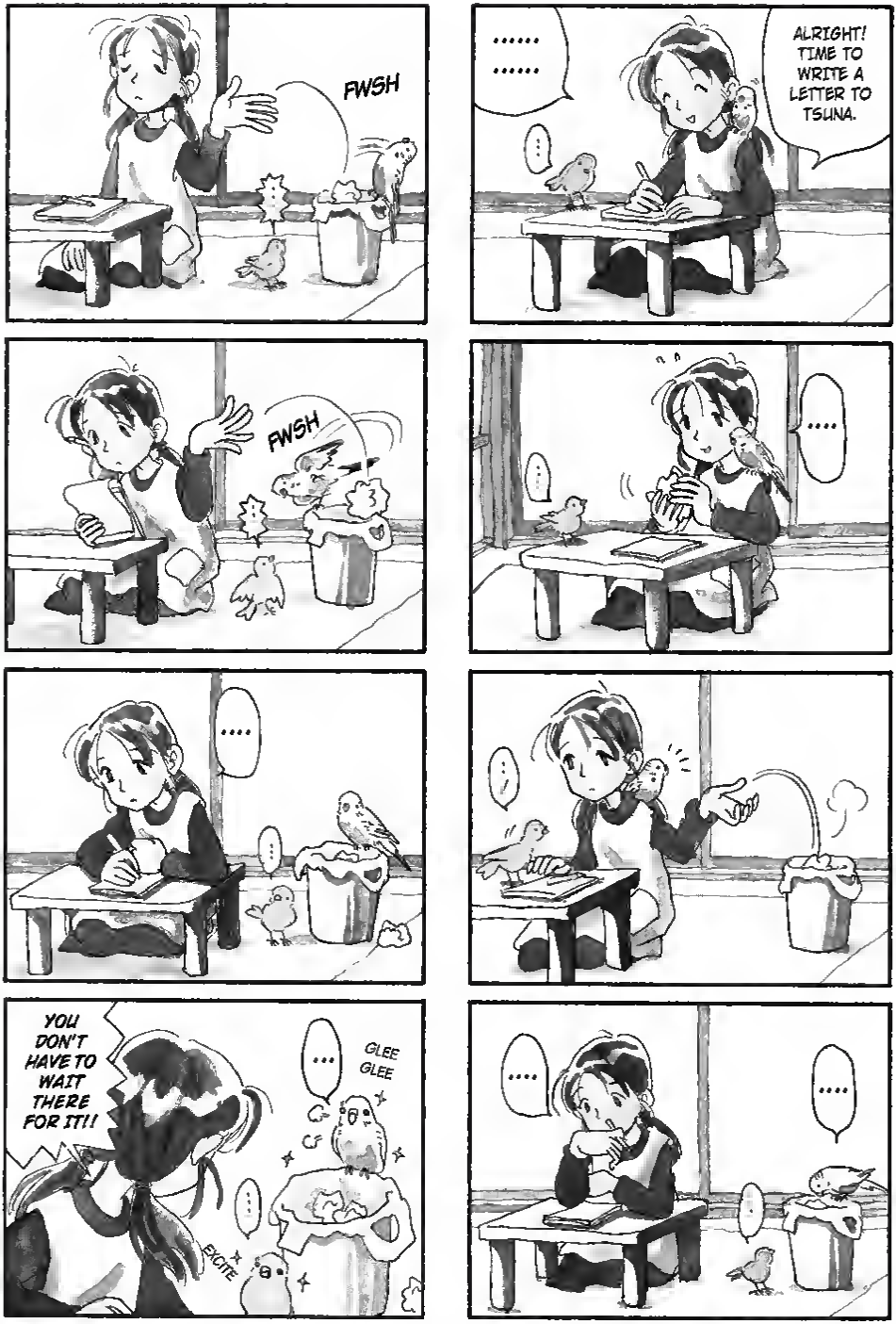

YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO CHEW THEM.
SO KEI LENT ME ALL THESE BOOKS TO READ!

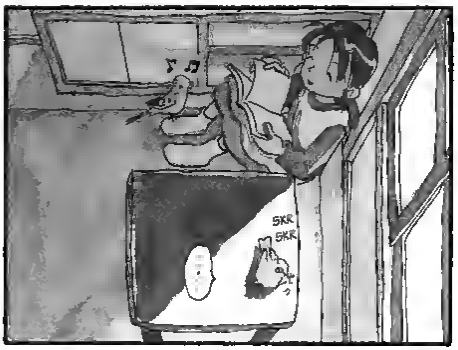

I HAVE BEEN COLLECTING EVIDENCE QUITE CAREFULLY... THE TRUE CULPRIT IS...
THAT IS INDEED A BIG PROBLEM. I SHALL ARREST THE CRIMINAL RIGHT AWAY.

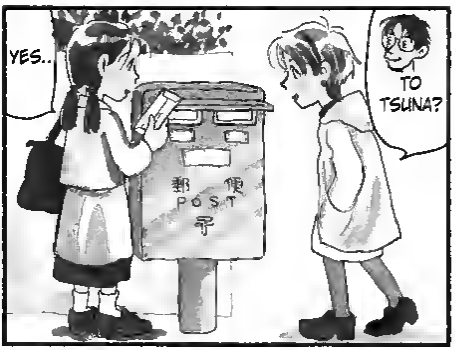
.....
.....

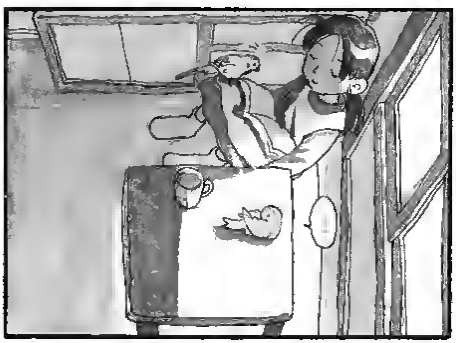

THE ONE MOST GUILTY OF THE CRIME OF GETTING WAY TOO INTO THE STORY WAS THE POLICE CHIEF.
AW, COME ON, I CAN'T READ IT AT ALL!

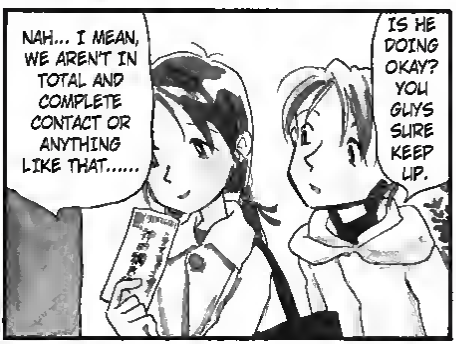

HEY, COME ON, I CAN'T READ NOW!

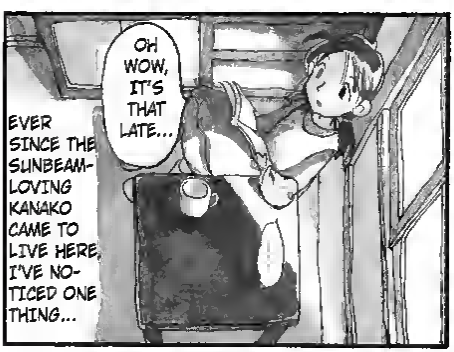

FWSH
.....
.....
ALRIGHT! TIME TO WRITE A LETTER TO TSUNA.
FWSH
....
....
....
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT THERE FOR IT!!
...
GLEE GLEE
EXCITE
....
....

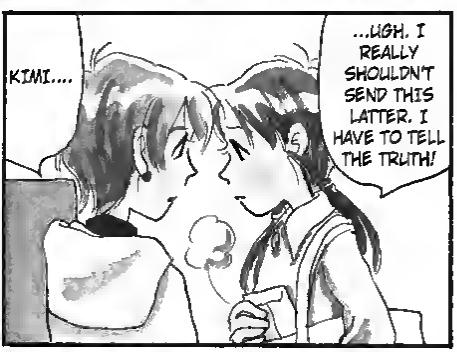

SKR
SKR


YES..
TO TSUNA?
郵便
POST



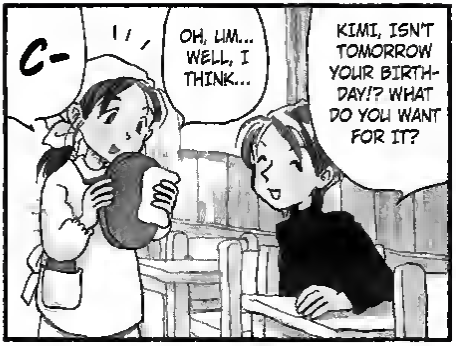

NAH... I MEAN, WE AREN'T IN TOTAL AND COMPLETE CONTACT OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.....
IS HE DOING OKAY? YOU GUYS SURE KEEP UP.

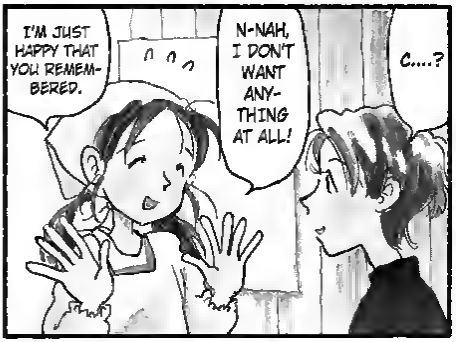

OH WOW, IT'S THAT LATE...
EVER SINCE THE SUNBEAM-LOVING KANAKO CAME TO LIVE HERE, I'VE NOTICED ONE THING...

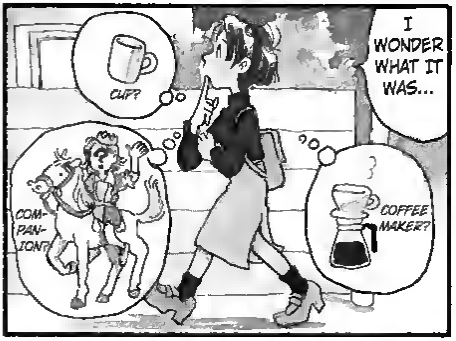

KIMI....
...UGH. I REALLY SHOULDN'T SEND THIS LATTER. I HAVE TO TELL THE TRUTH!

THAT PIPPIRA SEEMS TO REALLY LIKE THE SHADOWS MUCH MORE.

O-OF COURSE
OH, ABOUT KANAKO...
I FEEL RESPONSIBLE
NOW THAT I'VE BEEN TAKING CARE OF KANAKO, SHE'S GOTTEN A LOT LESS.. ...SLENDER !!
YEAH YEAH
BLAAAH


C-
OH, UM... WELL, I THINK...
KIMI, ISN'T TOMORROW YOUR BIRTH-DAY!? WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR IT?

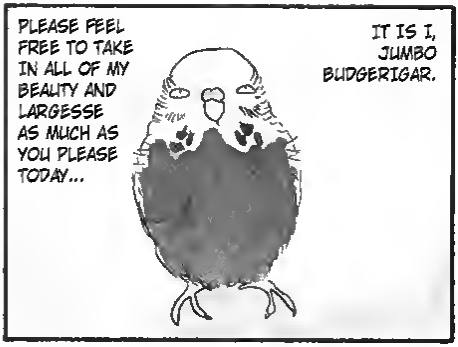

I'M JUST HAPPY THAT YOU REMEM-BERED.
N-NAH, I DON'T WANT ANY-THING AT ALL!
C....?

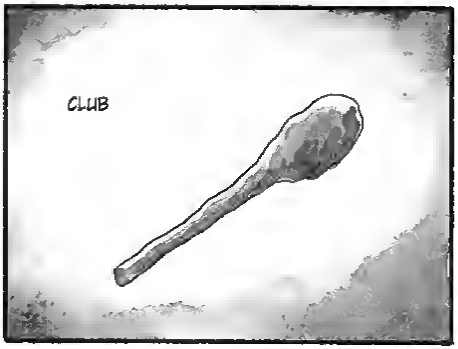

CUP?
I WONDER WHAT IT WAS...
COM-PAN-ION?
COFFEE MAKER?

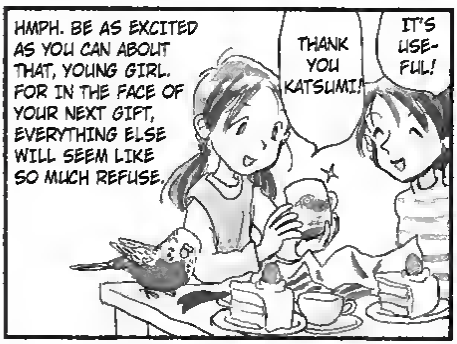
ANOTHER WEEK 'TIL PAYDAY... I WONDER IF IT'LL LAST...
CALROS RICE

PART 73

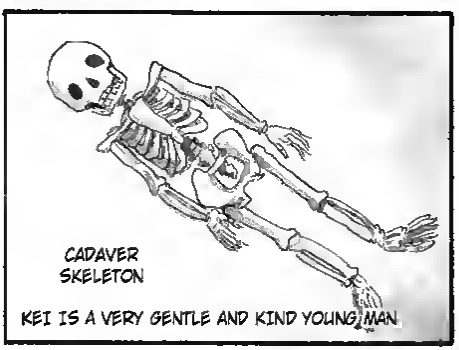
AHHH, I'M IN HEAVEN.
BURBLEBURBLEBURBLE
OOOH... THAT FEELS GOOD.
HAPPY BIRTH-DAY...
BUBBLING
A HOT SPRING, EH... NICE.
GRIP..
BURBLE BURBLE BURBLE BURBLE
DRIP DRIP DRIP DRIP
AH-WHAT !?
?
SQUEEZE

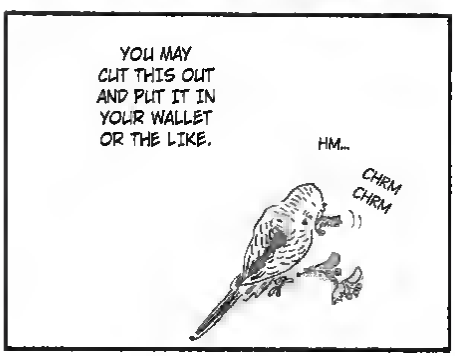

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO TAKE IN ALL OF MY BEAUTY AND LARGESSE AS MUCH AS YOU PLEASE TODAY...
IT IS I, JUMBO BUDGERIGAR.

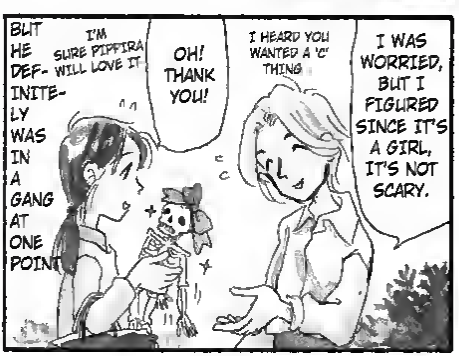

CLUB

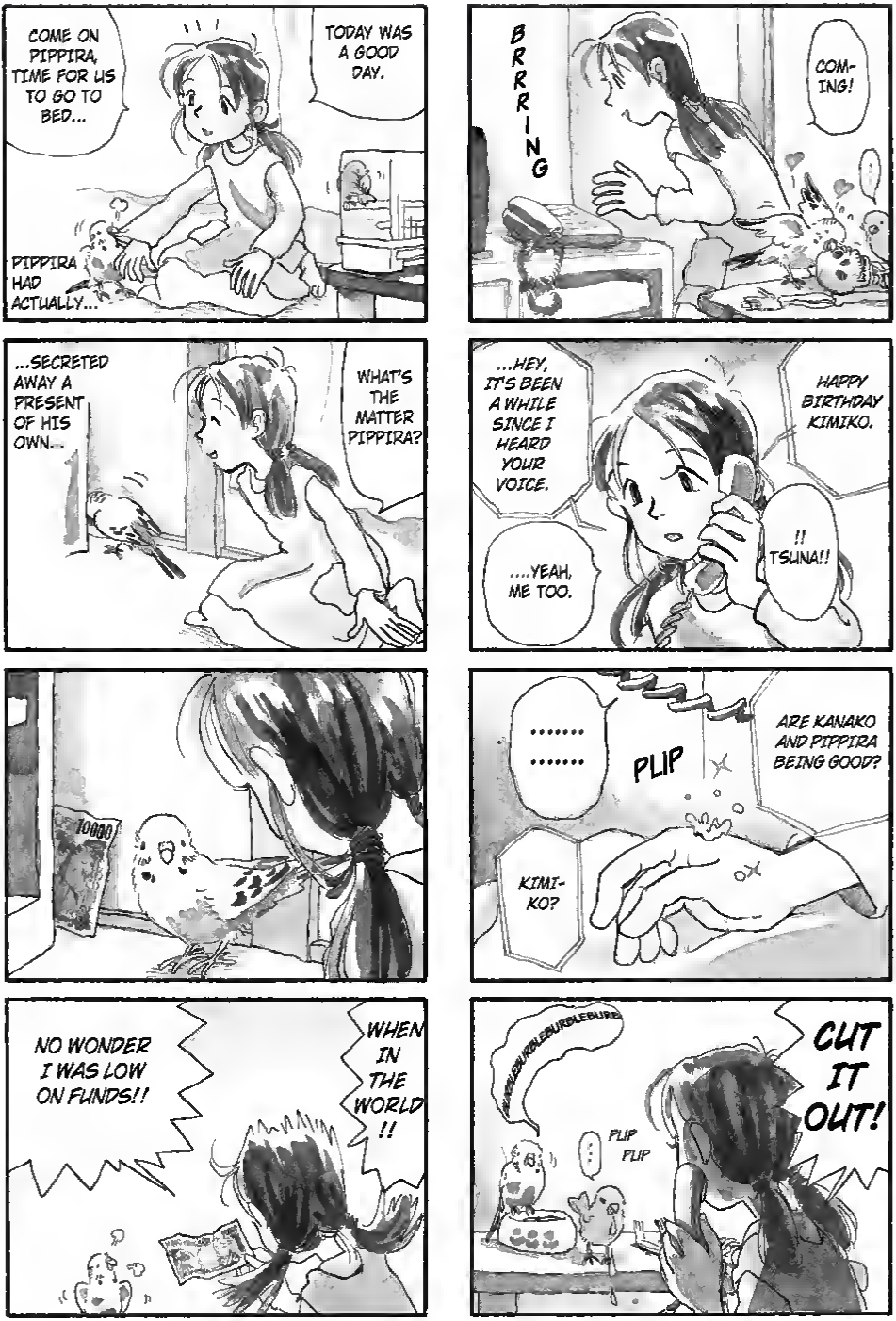

HMPH. BE AS EXCITED AS YOU CAN ABOUT THAT, YOUNG GIRL. FOR IN THE FACE OF YOUR NEXT GIFT, EVERYTHING ELSE WILL SEEM LIKE SO MUCH REFUSE.
THANK YOU KATSUMI!
IT'S USE-FUL!

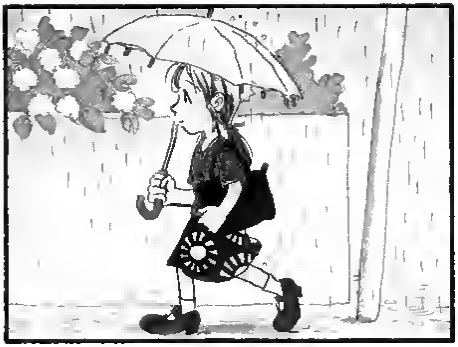
COBRA

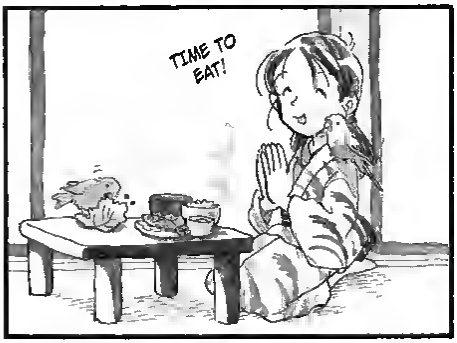

CADAVER SKELETON
KEI IS A VERY GENTLE AND KIND YOUNG MAN.


YOU MAY CUT THIS OUT AND PUT IT IN YOUR WALLET OR THE LIKE.
HM...
CHRM CHRM


BUT HE DEF-INITE-LY WAS IN A GANG AT ONE POINT.
I'M SURE PIPPIRA WILL LOVE IT
OH! THANK YOU!
I HEARD YOU WANTED A 'C' THING
I WAS WORRIED, BUT I FIGURED SINCE IT'S A GIRL, IT'S NOT SCARY.


COME ON PIPPIRA, TIME FOR US TO GO TO BED...
TODAY WAS A GOOD DAY.
PIPPIRA HAD ACTUALLY...
BRRRING
COMING!
...SECRETED AWAY A PRESENT OF HIS OWN...
WHAT'S THE MATTER PIPPIRA?
...HEY, IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I HEARD YOUR VOICE.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY KIMIKO.
....YEAH, ME TOO.
!! TSUNA!!
10000
.....
.....
PLIP
ARE KANAKO AND PIPPIRA BEING GOOD?
KIMIKO?
NO WONDER I WAS LOW ON FUNDS!!
WHEN IN THE WORLD !!
PLIP PLIP
CUT IT OUT!

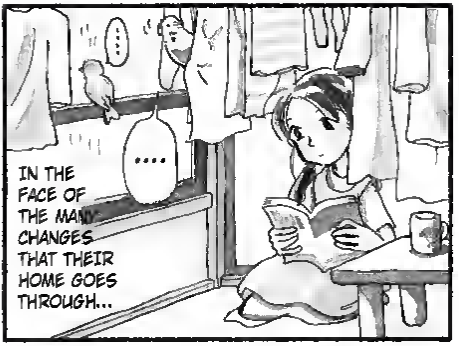


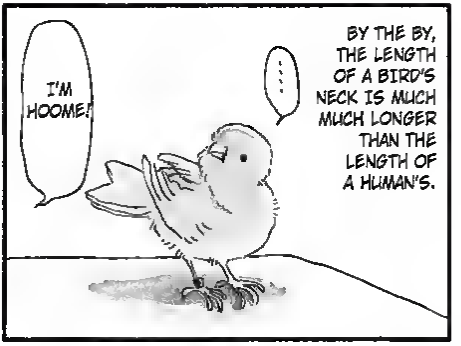

TIME TO EAT!

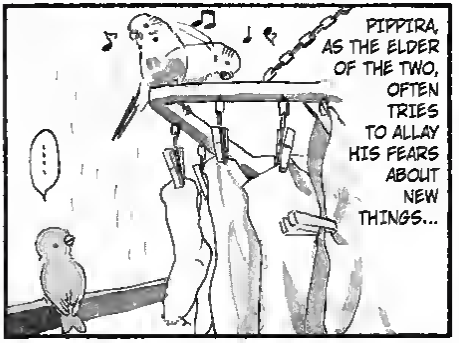
GOOD MOR-NING!

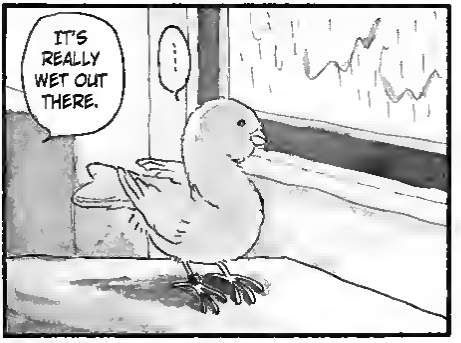
OH YEAH!
THEY HAVE CLOTHES DRIERS AT THE COIN LAUNDRY...
YOU KNOW, KIMI...

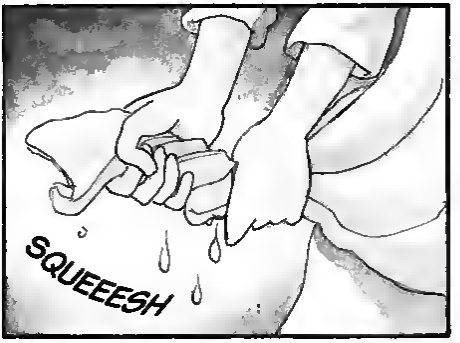
PART 74

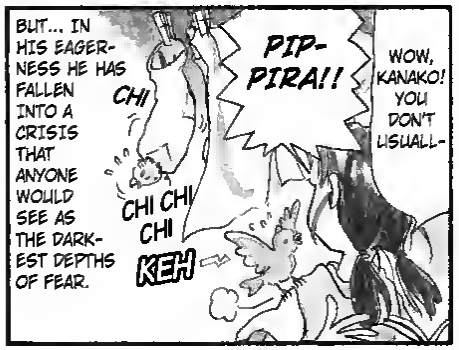

....
IN THE FACE OF THE MANY CHANGES THAT THEIR HOME GOES THROUGH...

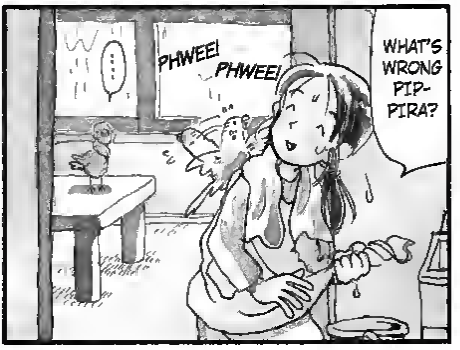

I'M HOOME!
BY THE BY, THE LENGTH OF A BIRD'S NECK IS MUCH MUCH LONGER THAN THE LENGTH OF A HUMAN'S.


PIPPIRA, AS THE ELDER OF THE TWO, OFTEN TRIES TO ALLAY HIS FEARS ABOUT NEW THINGS...

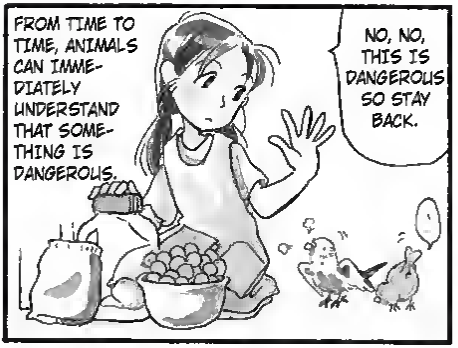

IT'S REALLY WET OUT THERE.


SQUEEESH

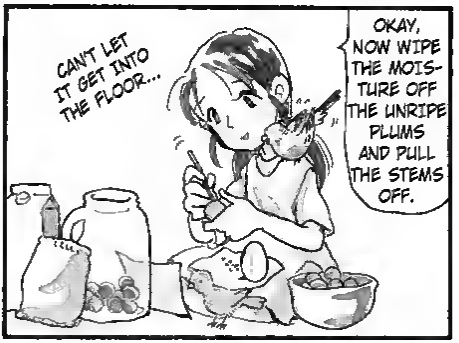

BUT... IN HIS EAGERNESS HE HAS FALLEN INTO A CRISIS THAT ANYONE WOULD SEE AS THE DARKEST DEPTHS OF FEAR.
CHI
CHI CHI CHI
KEH
PIP-PIRA!!
WOW, KANAKO! YOU DON'T USUALL-

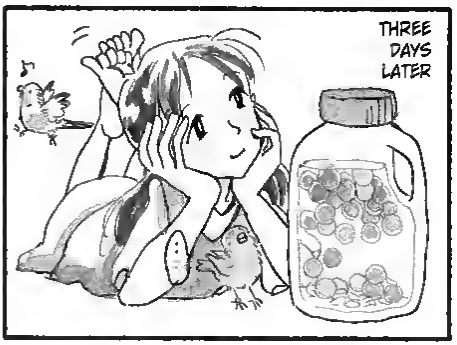

PHWEE!
PHWEE!
WHAT'S WRONG PIP-PIRA?

I WONDER IF IT COULD BE MADE FASTER...


FROM TIME TO TIME, ANIMALS CAN IMMEDIATELY UNDERSTAND THAT SOMETHING IS DANGEROUS.
NO, NO, THIS IS DANGEROUS SO STAY BACK.

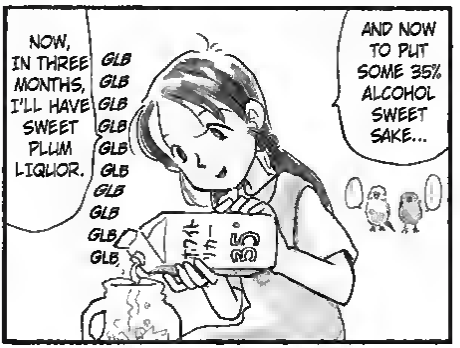
THE NEXT DAY
OH, THEY'RE FLOATING...

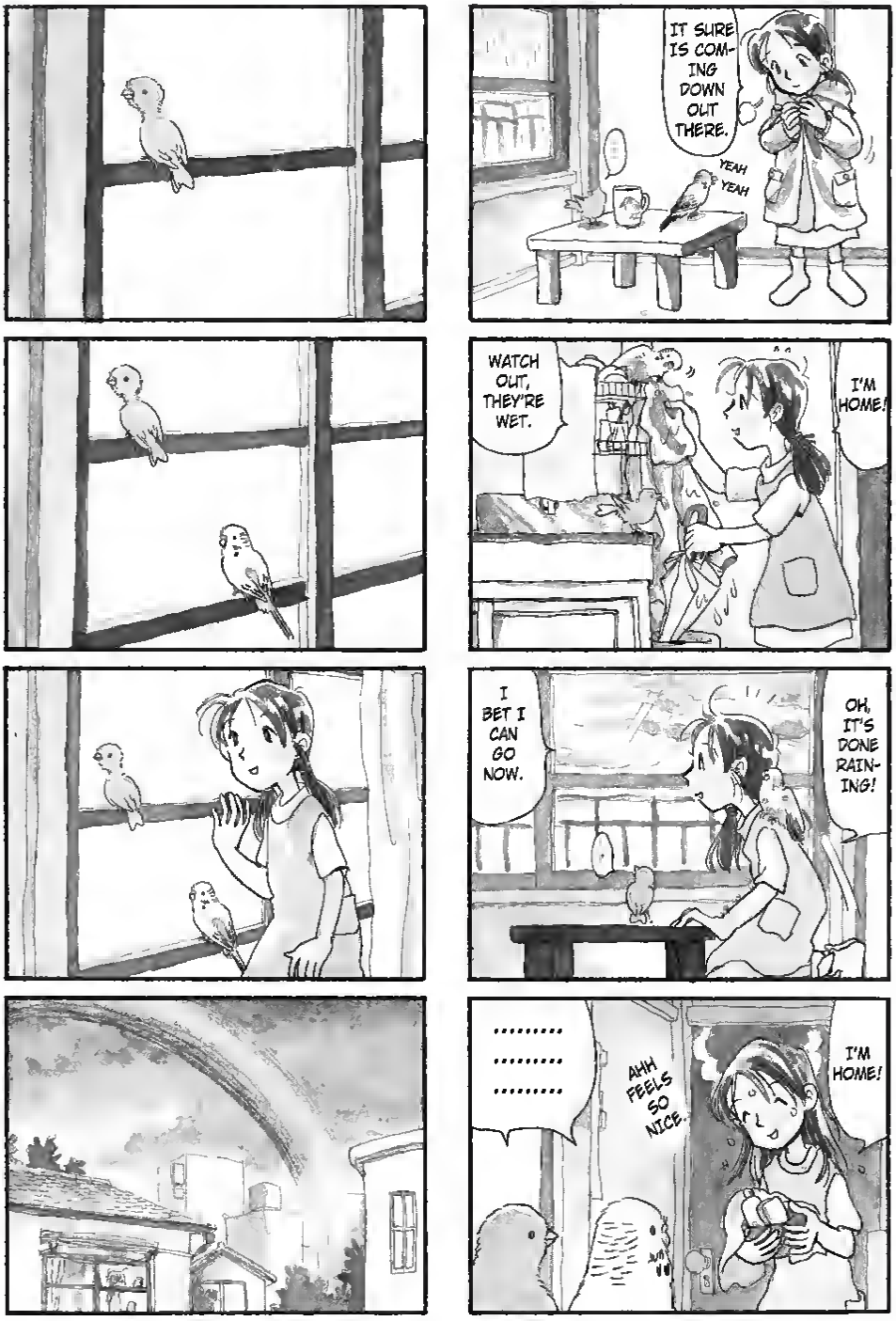

CAN'T LET IT GET INTO THE FLOOR...
OKAY, NOW WIPE THE MOISTURE OFF THE UNRIPE PLUMS AND PULL THE STEMS OFF.


THREE DAYS LATER

SHOOK A SHOOK
NOW PUT THE UNRIPE PLUMS AND ROCK CANDY IN A BOTTLE.

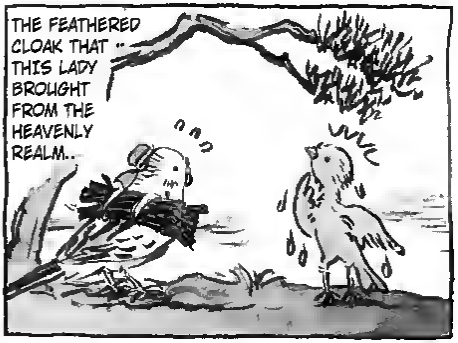
ONE WEEK LATER
SHAKE

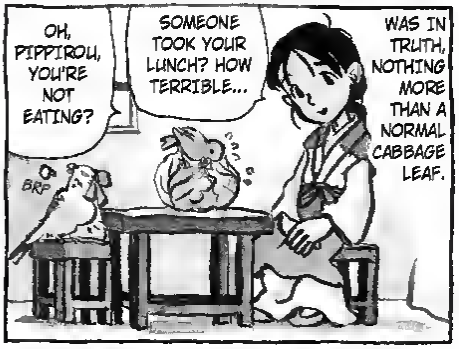

NOW, IN THREE MONTHS, I'LL HAVE SWEET PLUM LIQUOR.
GLB GLB GLB GLB GLB GLB GLB GLB GLB
AND NOW TO PUT SOME 35% ALCOHOL SWEET SAKE...
35°

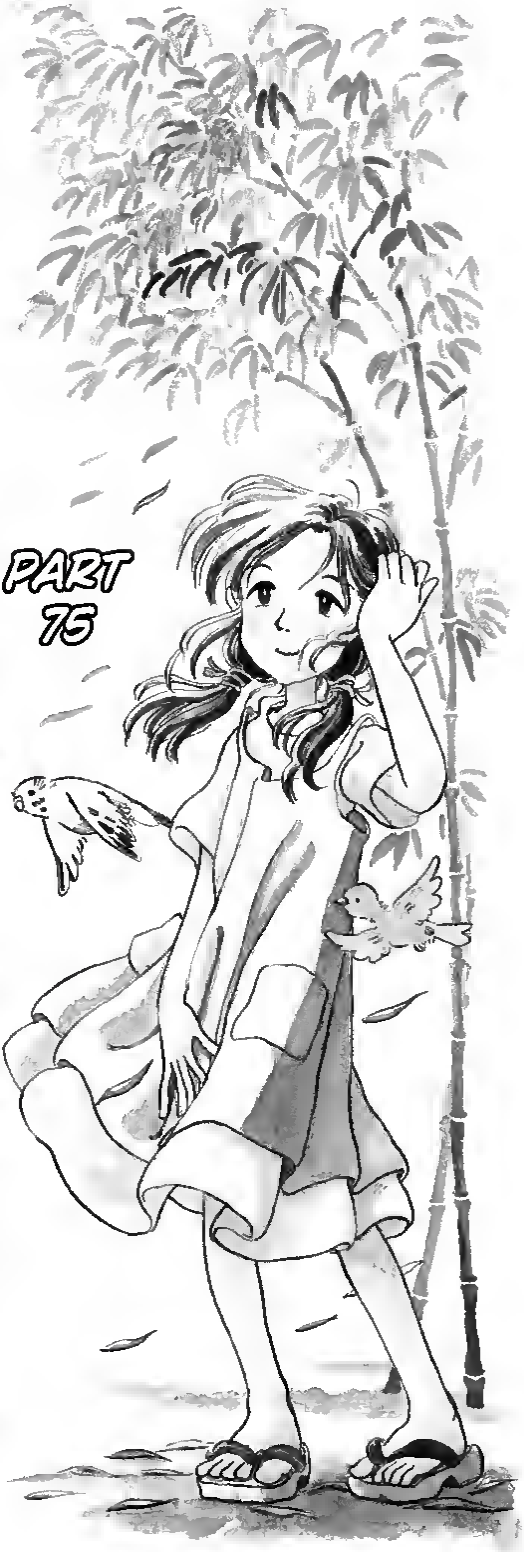

IT SURE IS COMING DOWN OUT THERE.
YEAH YEAH
WATCH OUT, THEY'RE WET.
I'M HOME!
I BET I CAN GO NOW.
OH, IT'S DONE RAINING!
.....
.....
.....
AHH FEELS SO NICE.
I'M HOME!

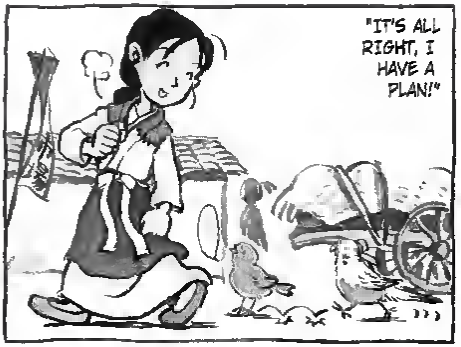
FLUTTER FLUTTER

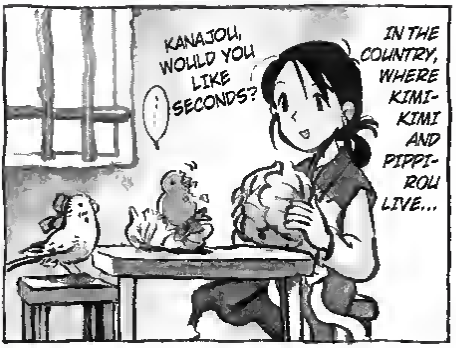
SPLSH
SPLSH


THE FEATHERED CLOAK THAT.. THIS LADY BROUGHT FROM THE HEAVENLY REALM..

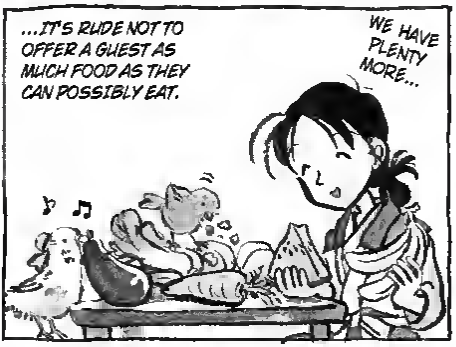

OH, PIPPIROU, YOU'RE NOT EATING?
SOMEONE TOOK YOUR LUNCH? HOW TERRIBLE...
WAS IN TRUTH, NOTHING MORE THAN A NORMAL CABBAGE LEAF.
BRP


PART 75

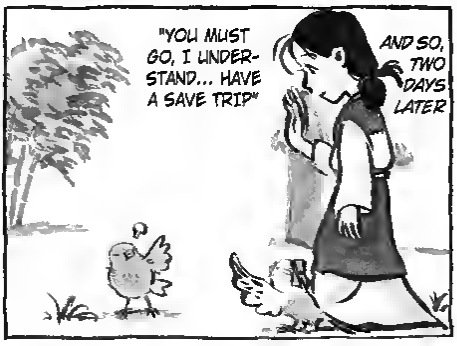

"IT'S ALL RIGHT, I HAVE A PLAN!"

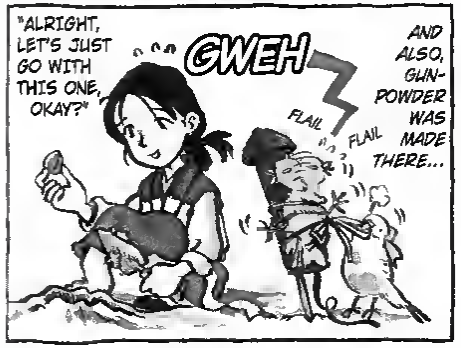

KANAJOU, WOULD YOU LIKE SECONDS?
IN THE COUNTRY, WHERE KIMI-KIMI AND PIPPI-ROU LIVE...

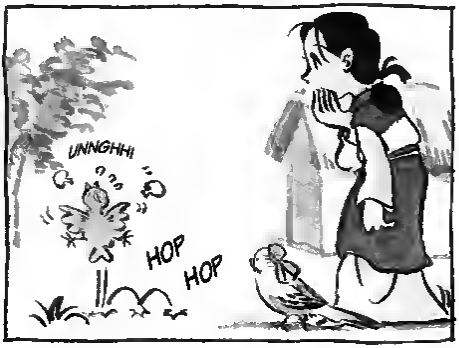
HERE YOU ARE!
THIS SHALL BE A HUGE TREE, IN JUST ONE NIGHT!
KIMIKIMI AND PIPPIROU LIVED IN A PLACE WHERE STRANGE THINGS WERE IN ABUNDANCE

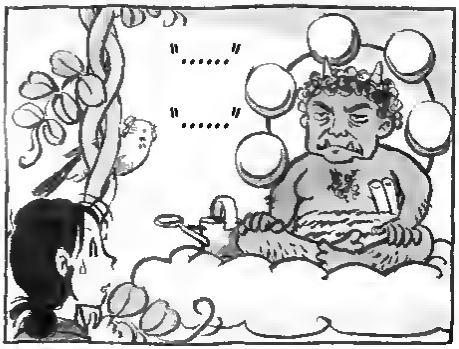

...IT'S RUDE NOT TO OFFER A GUEST AS MUCH FOOD AS THEY CAN POSSIBLY EAT.
WE HAVE PLENTY MORE...

"..... ....."
COME AND BUY THIS!! THIS FIREWORK IS A ROCKET THAT WILL SEND YOU ALL THE WAY TO MARS!!

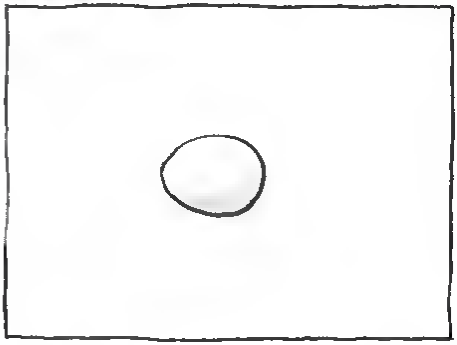

"YOU MUST GO, I UNDERSTAND... HAVE A SAVE TRIP"
AND SO, TWO DAYS LATER


"ALRIGHT, LET'S JUST GO WITH THIS ONE, OKAY?"
GWEH
FLAIL
FLAIL
AND ALSO, GUNPOWDER WAS MADE THERE...

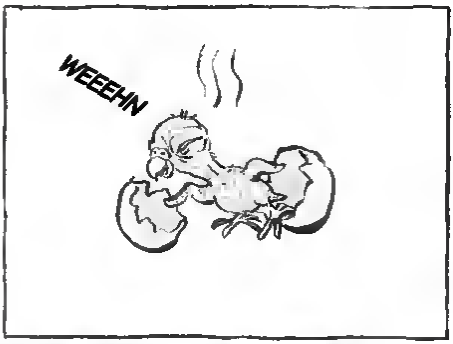

UNNGHH!
HOP
HOP


"....."
"....."

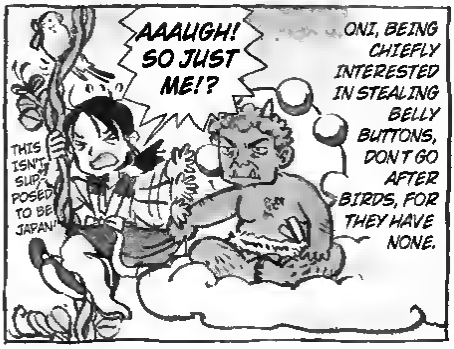
"WHOAA, IT'S HUGE!"



"....."

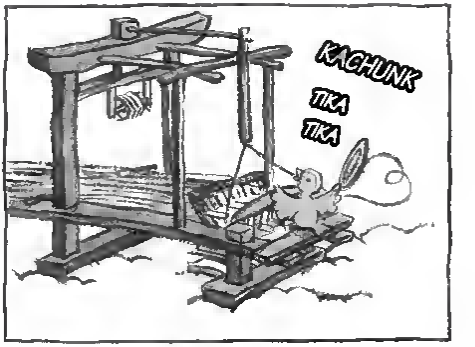

WEEEHN

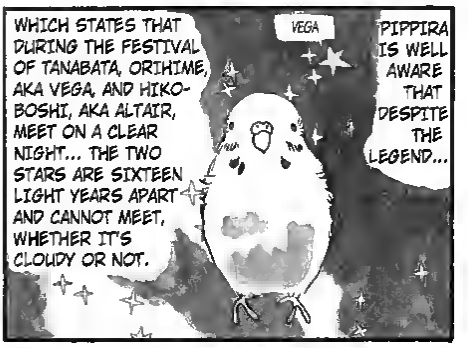
"LET'S GO CHECK IT OUT, PIPPIROU!"


AAAUGH! SO JUST ME!?
ONI, BEING CHIEFLY INTERESTED IN STEALING BELLY BUTTONS, DON'T GO AFTER BIRDS, FOR THEY HAVE NONE.
THIS ISN'T SUPPOSED TO BE JAPAN!

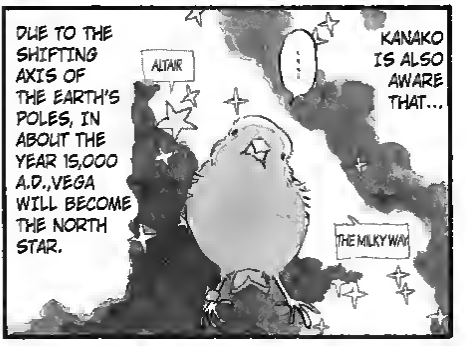
"....."

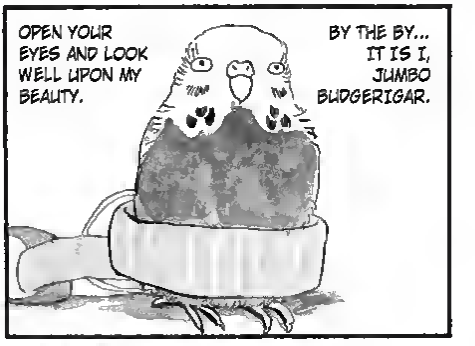
HOW NICE... IT LOOKS LIKE IT WON'T BE CLOUDY FOR TANABATA.
.....
.....

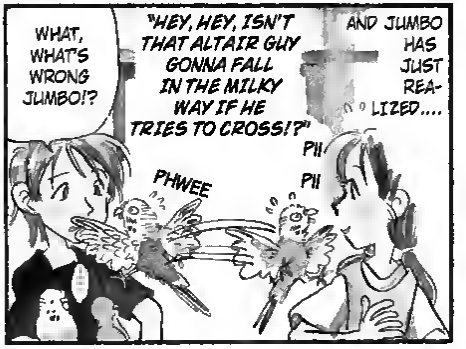

KACHUNK
TIKA
TIKA

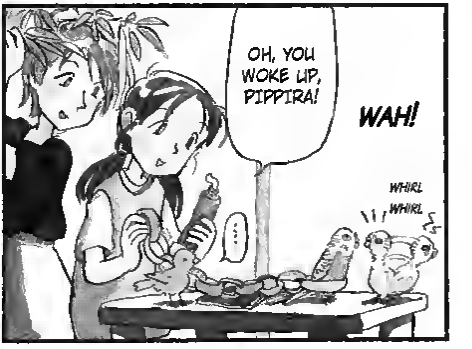

WHICH STATES THAT DURING THE FESTIVAL OF TANABATA, ORIHIME, AKA VEGA, AND HIKOBOSHI, AKA ALTAIR, MEET ON A CLEAR NIGHT... THE TWO STARS ARE SIXTEEN LIGHT YEARS APART AND CANNOT MEET, WHETHER IT'S CLOUDY OR NOT.
VEGA
PIPPIRA IS WELL AWARE THAT DESPITE THE LEGEND...

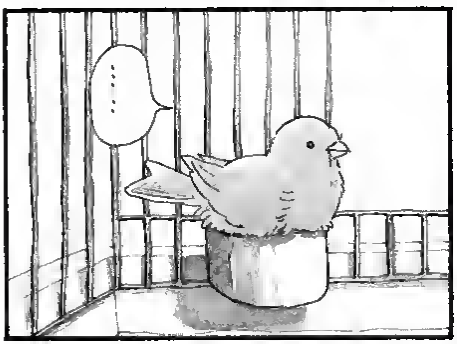
WE SHOULD BE FINE WITH THESE..
IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THEM WITH A SAFE RETURN, KANAJOU WOVE THEM HARAMAKI BANDS AS A GIFT.

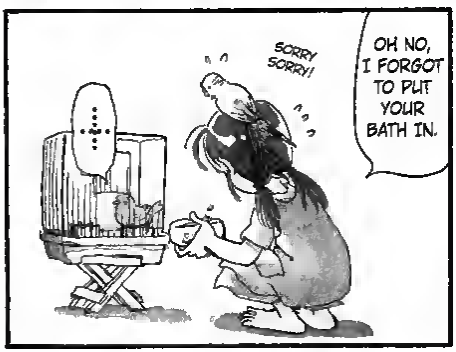

DUE TO THE SHIFTING AXIS OF THE EARTH'S POLES, IN ABOUT THE YEAR 15,000 A.D., VEGA WILL BECOME THE NORTH STAR.
ALTAIR
KANAKO IS ALSO AWARE THAT...
THE MILKY WAY


OPEN YOUR EYES AND LOOK WELL UPON MY BEAUTY.
BY THE BY... IT IS I, JUMBO BUDGERIGAR.

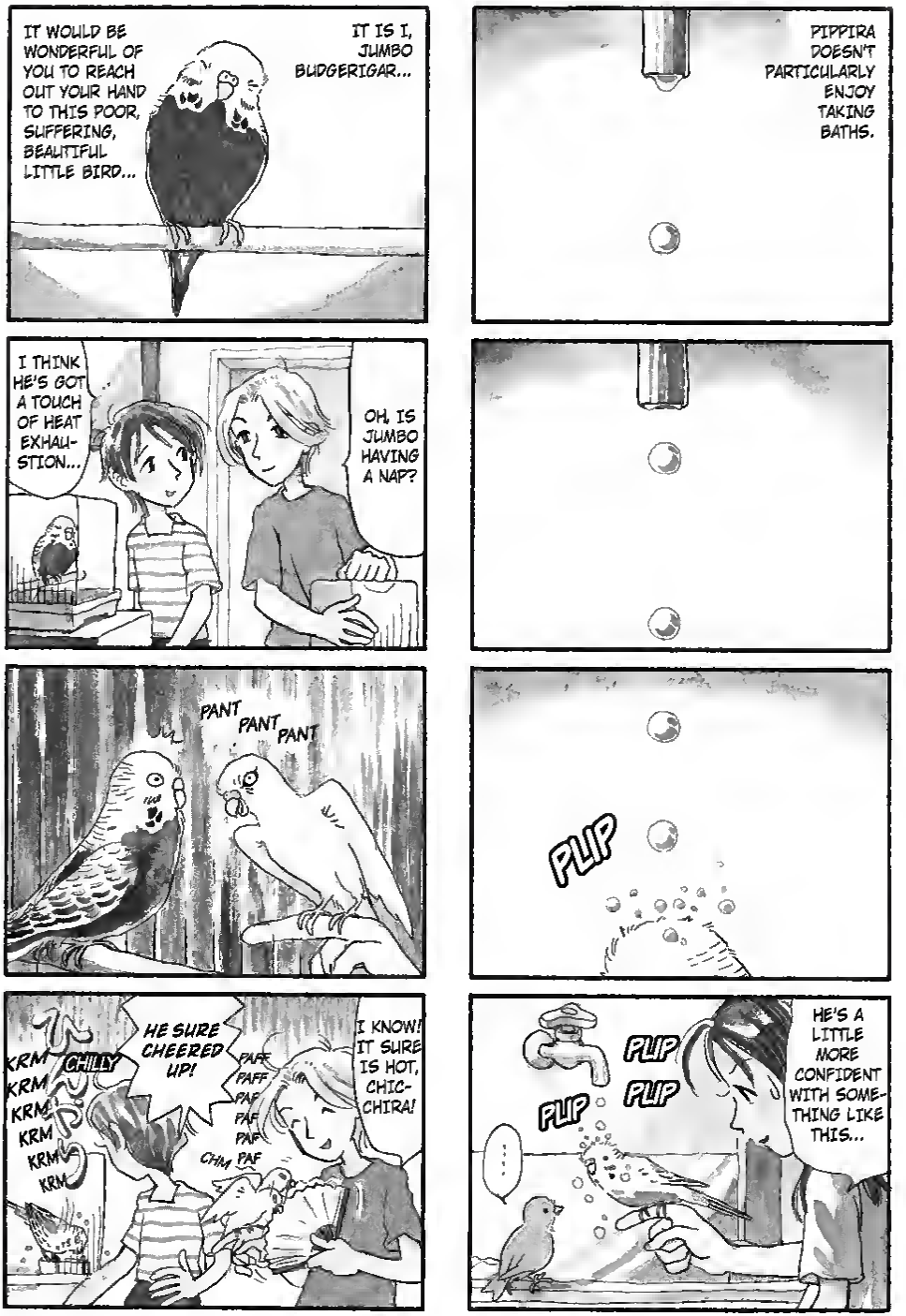

WHAT, WHAT'S WRONG JUMBO!?
"HEY, HEY, ISN'T THAT ALTAIR GUY GONNA FALL IN THE MILKY WAY IF HE TRIES TO CROSS!?"
AND JUMBO HAS JUST REALIZED....
PHWEE
PII
PII

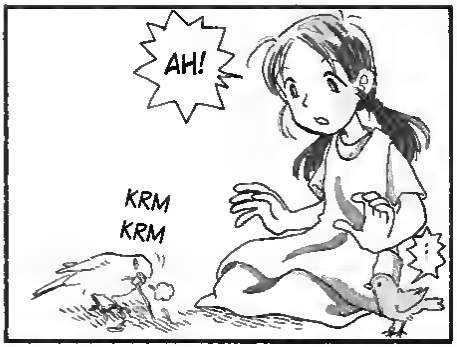

OH, YOU WOKE UP, PIPPIRA!
WAH!
WHIRL
WHIRL

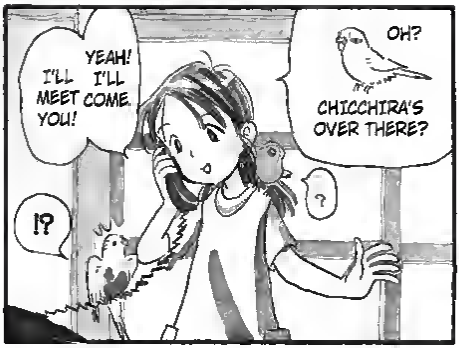




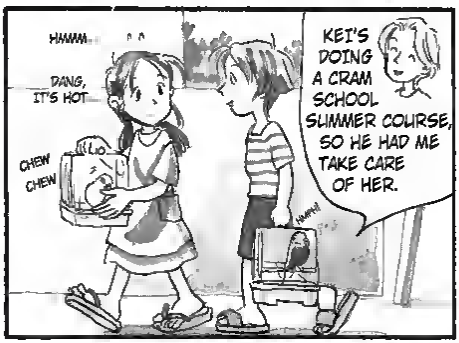
PART 76


IT WOULD BE WONDERFUL OF YOU TO REACH OUT YOUR HAND TO THIS POOR, SUFFERING, BEAUTIFUL LITTLE BIRD...
IT IS I, JUMBO BUDGERIGAR...
PIPPIRA DOESN'T PARTICULARLY ENJOY TAKING BATHS.
I THINK HE'S GOT A TOUCH OF HEAT EXHAUSTION...
OH, IS JUMBO HAVING A NAP?
PANT PANT PANT
PLIP
KRM KRM KRM KRM KRM KRM
CHILL
HE SURE CHEERED UP!
PAFF PAFF PAF PAF PAF CHIM PAF
I KNOW! IT SURE IS HOT, CHIC-CHIRA!
PLIP PLIP PLIP
HE'S A LITTLE MORE CONFIDENT WITH SOMETHING LIKE THIS...


AH!
KRM KRM

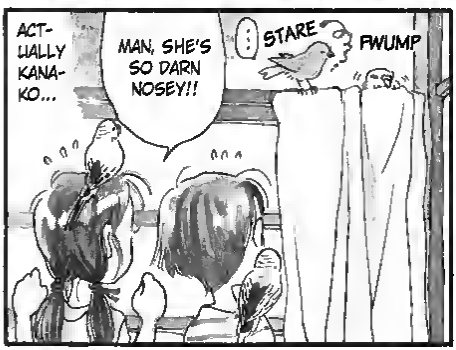

OH?
CHICCHIRA'S OVER THERE?
?
YEAH! I'LL COME.
I'LL MEET YOU!
!?

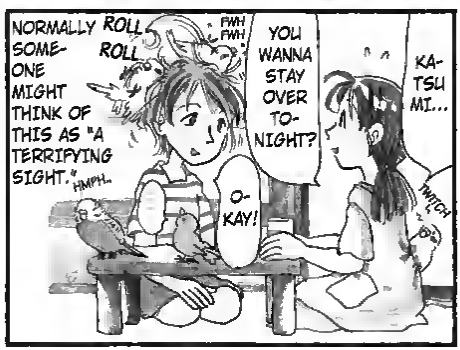
FLAIL FLAIL
CHOMP
AH!
YOU SURE RAN AWAY FAST.

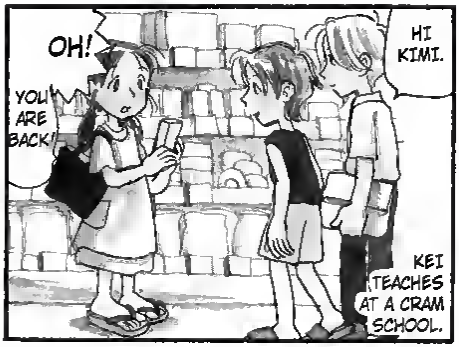

HMMM
DANG, IT'S HOT
CHEW CHEW
KEI'S DOING A CRAM SCHOOL SUMMER COURSE, SO HE HAD ME TAKE CARE OF HER.

BUT THE THING THAT WAS MAKING KIMI THE MOST ANXIOUS WAS...
KRM KRM
AAH !!

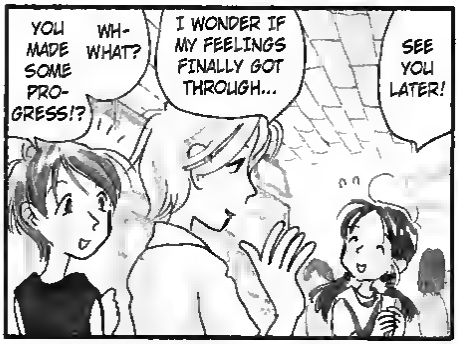
.....
.....
FIRST, A BATH
GONNA BORROW THIS.
FWSH

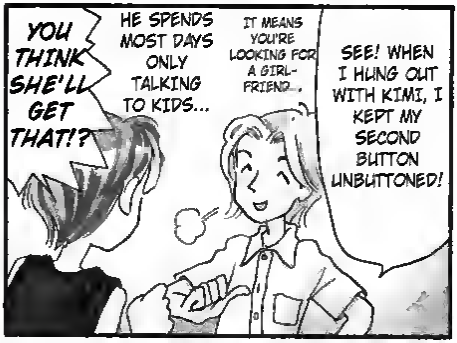

ACTUALLY KANAKO...
MAN, SHE'S SO DARN NOSEY!!
STARE
FWUMP

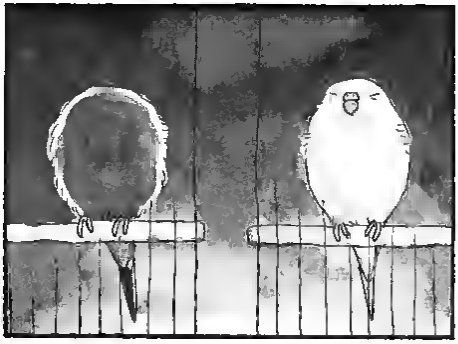

NORMALLY SOMEONE MIGHT THINK OF THIS AS "A TERRIFYING SIGHT."
HMPH.
ROLL ROLL
FWH FWH
YOU WANNA STAY OVER TONIGHT?
O-KAY!
KATSUMI...
TWITCH

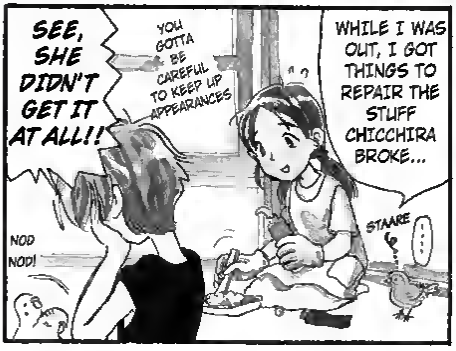

OH!
YOU ARE BACK!
HI KIMI.
KEI TEACHES AT A CRAM SCHOOL.

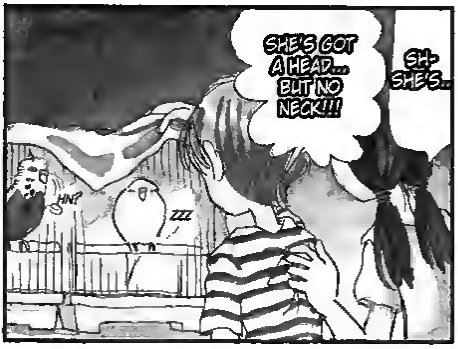
SCARY!!
恐怖！
首なし鳥の館
MANOR OF THE HEADLESS BIRDS

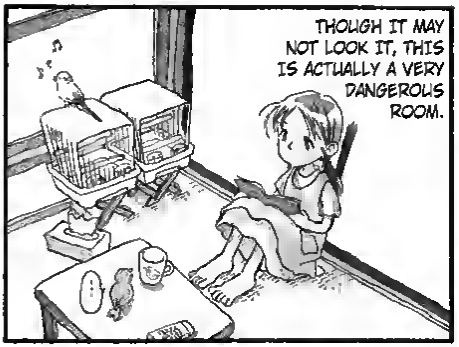

YOU MADE SOME PRO-GRESS!?
WH-WHAT?
I WONDER IF MY FEELINGS FINALLY GOT THROUGH...
SEE YOU LATER!

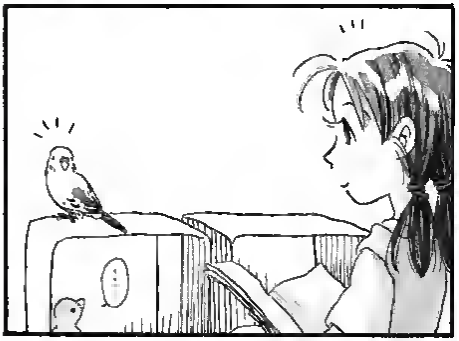

YOU THINK SHE'LL GET THAT!?
HE SPENDS MOST DAYS ONLY TALKING TO KIDS...
IT MEANS YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A GIRL-FRIEND...
SEE! WHEN I HUNG OUT WITH KIMI, I KEPT MY SECOND BUTTON UNBUTTONED!

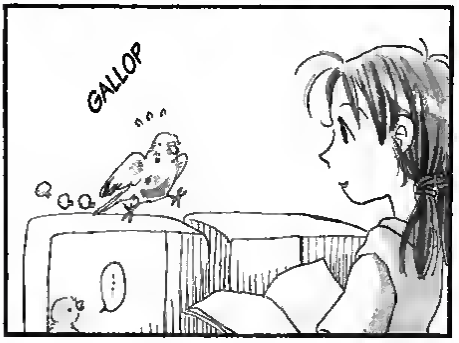


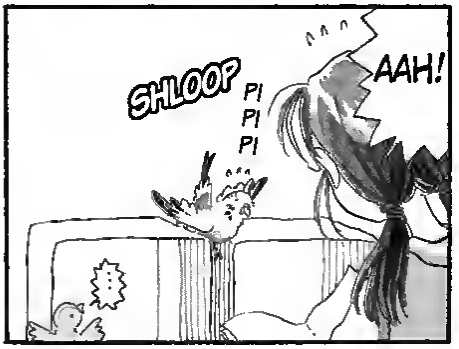

SEE, SHE DIDN'T GET IT AT ALL!!
YOU GOTTA BE CAREFUL TO KEEP UP APPEARANCES
WHILE I WAS OUT, I GOT THINGS TO REPAIR THE STUFF CHICCHIRA BROKE...
NOD NOD!
STARE

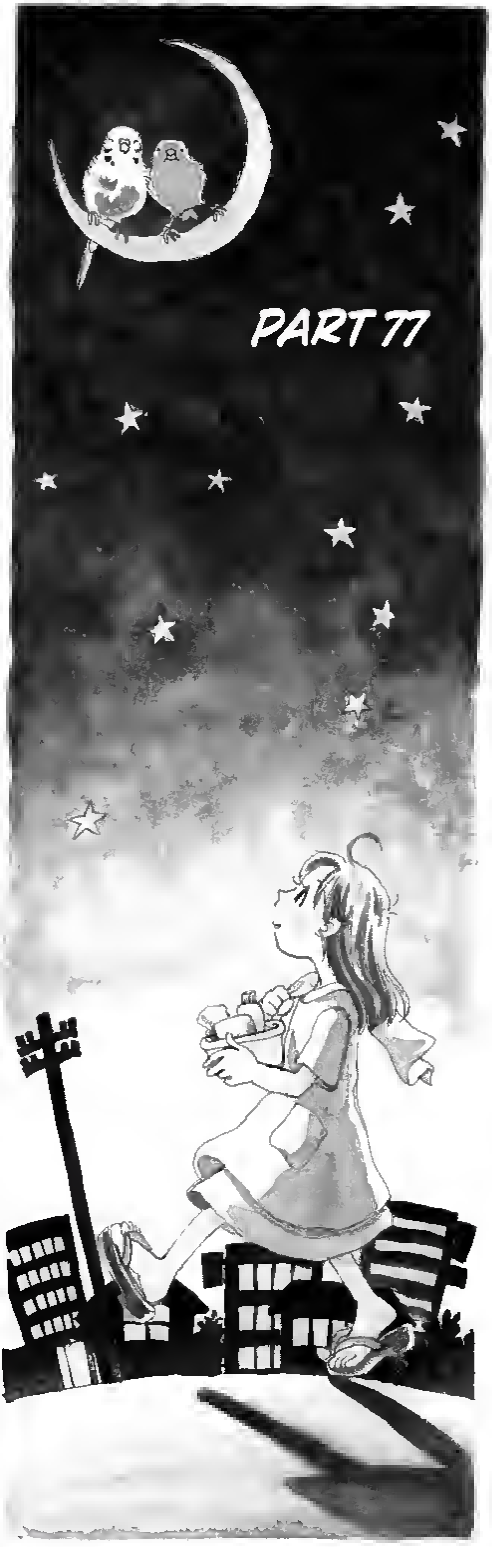

SHE'S GOT A HEAD... BUT NO NECK!!!
SH-SHE'S..
HN?
ZZZ


THOUGH IT MAY NOT LOOK IT, THIS IS ACTUALLY A VERY DANGEROUS ROOM.

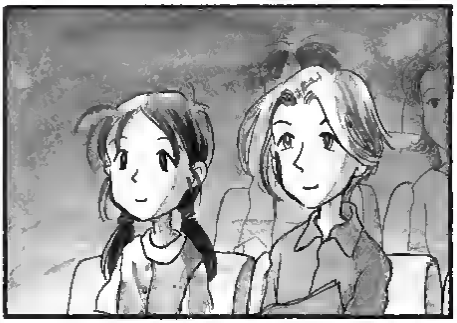


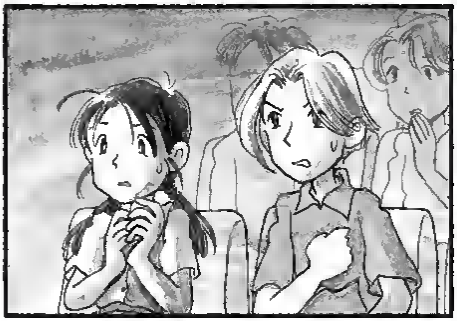

GALLOP


SHLOOP
PI
PI
PI
AAH!


PART 77

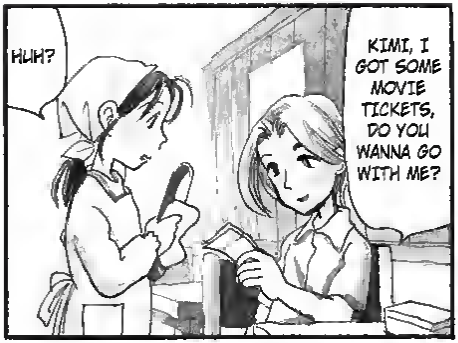
HERE WE GO, THIS SHOULD BE SAFER.
AH!
DRAG DRAG
...HE-LLOH!
PLOP!
HOOH
THE ROOM IS NOT LIMITED TO JUST ONE DANGEROUS HOLE TO FALL INTO.
AND NOW KANAKO'S STUCK!
FLAIL FLAIL
AND THIS IS HOW PIPPIRA CHOSE TO HIDE HIS EMBARRASSMENT.
PHWEE!
PHWEE!
GYEE!

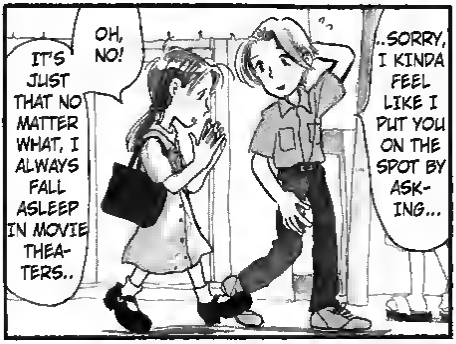


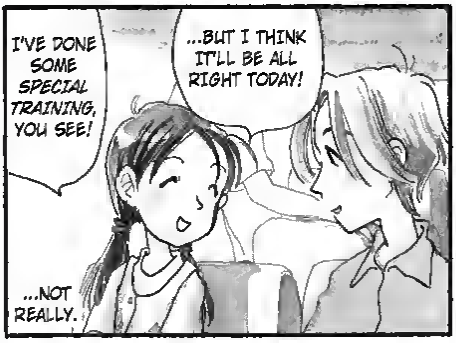


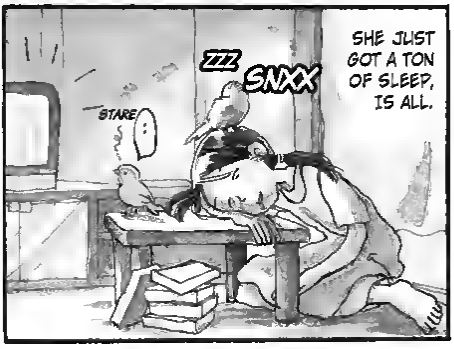
× 5

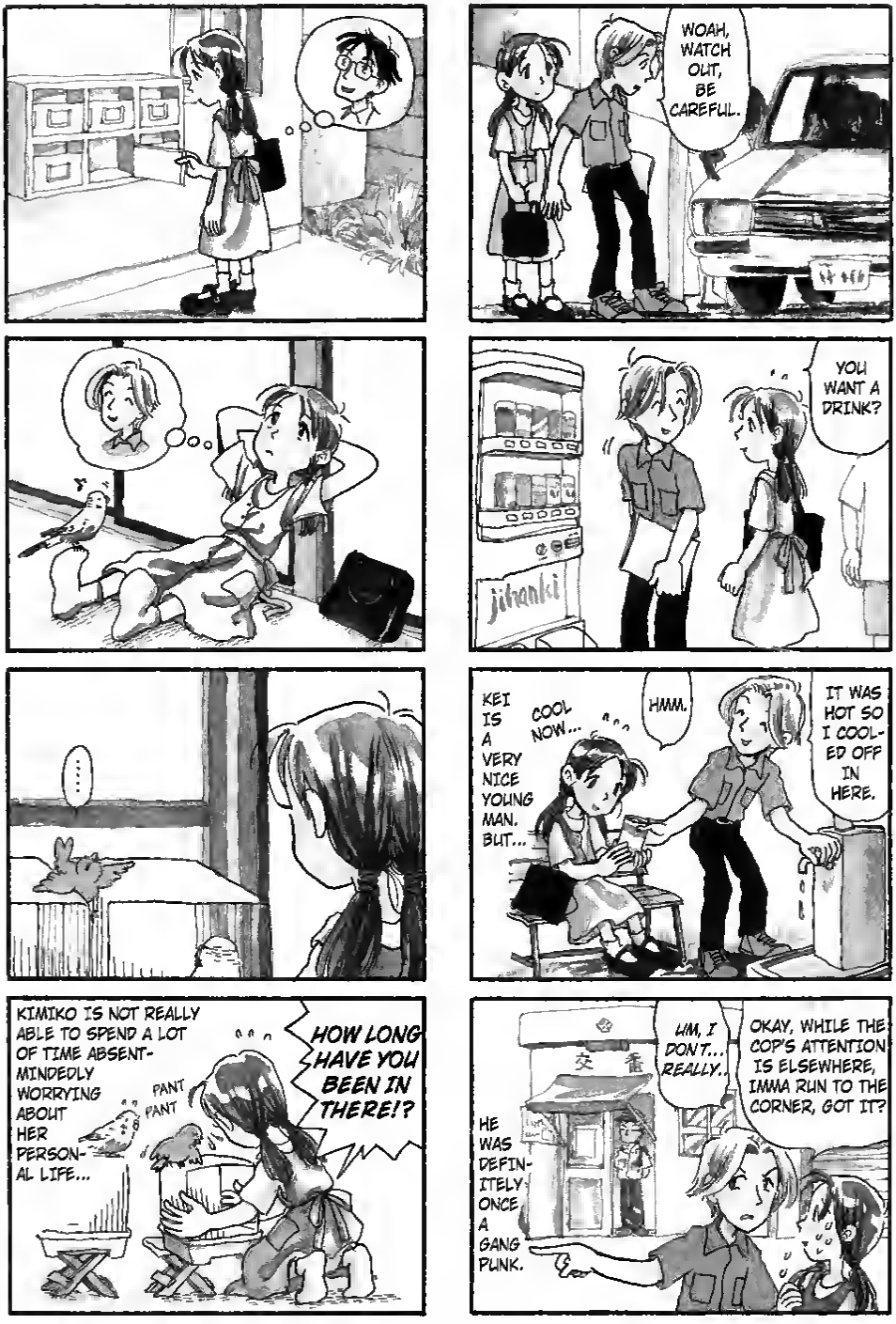
KEI IS... AN INCREDIBLY NICE PERSON...
YEAH...
THAT WAS A PRETTY GOOD MOVIE, WASN'T IT!
双葉座

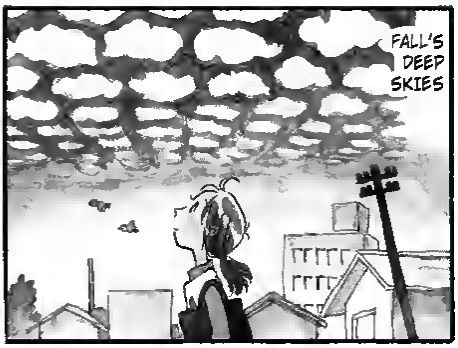

HUH?
KIMI, I GOT SOME MOVIE TICKETS, DO YOU WANNA GO WITH ME?


IT'S JUST THAT NO MATTER WHAT, I ALWAYS FALL ASLEEP IN MOVIE THEA-TERS..
OH, NO!
..SORRY, I KINDA FEEL LIKE I PUT YOU ON THE SPOT BY ASK-ING...

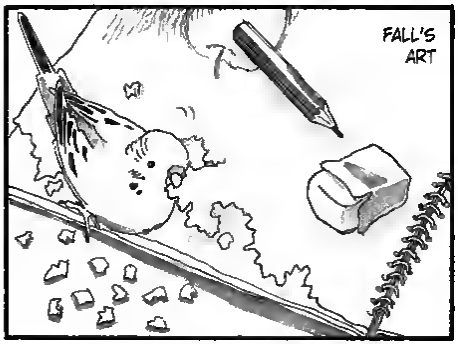

I'VE DONE SOME SPECIAL TRAINING, YOU SEE!
...BUT I THINK IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT TODAY!
...NOT REALLY.

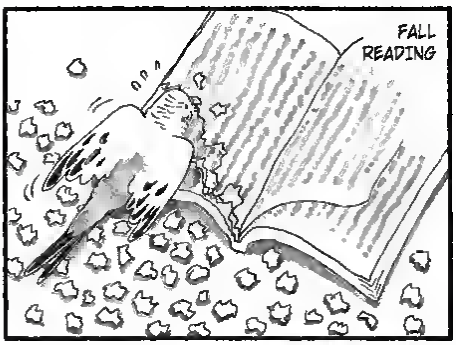

ZZZ
SNXX
STARE
SHE JUST GOT A TON OF SLEEP, IS ALL.

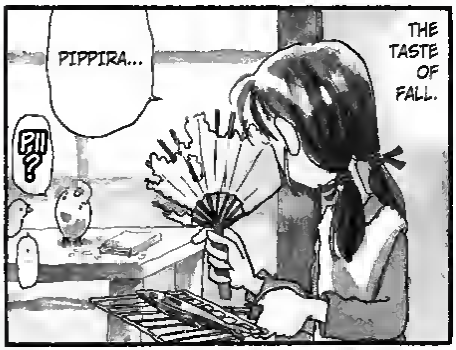

WOAH, WATCH OUT, BE CAREFUL.
YOU WANT A DRINK?
jihanki
IT WAS HOT SO I COOLED OFF IN HERE.
HMM.
COOL NOW...
KEI IS A VERY NICE YOUNG MAN. BUT...
KIMIKO IS NOT REALLY ABLE TO SPEND A LOT OF TIME ABSENT-MINDEDLY WORRYING ABOUT HER PERSONAL LIFE...
PANT PANT
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN THERE!?
OKAY, WHILE THE COP'S ATTENTION IS ELSEWHERE, IMMA RUN TO THE CORNER, GOT IT?
UM, I DON'T... REALLY..
交番
HE WAS DEFINITELY ONCE A GANG PUNK.

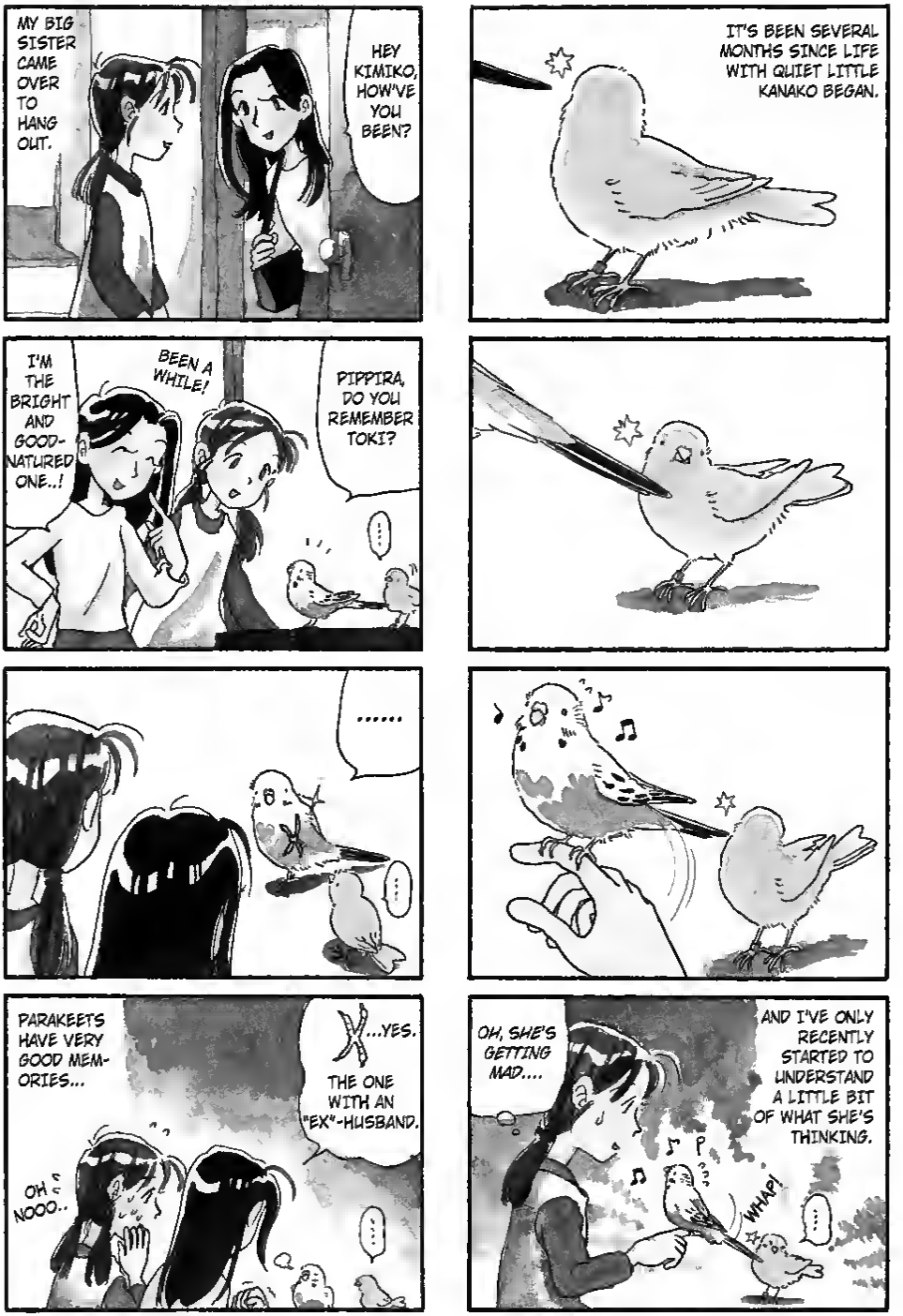

FALL'S
DEEP
SKIES

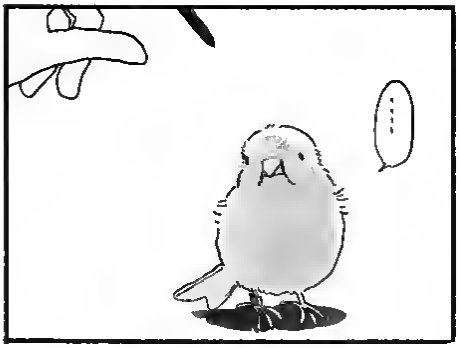
PART 78

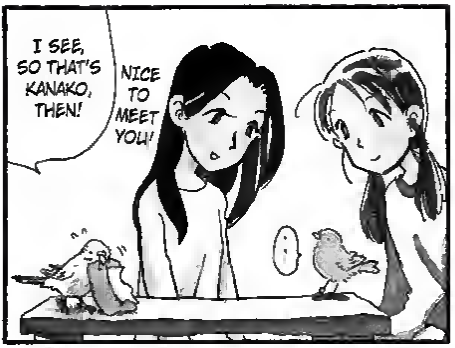

FALL'S
ART

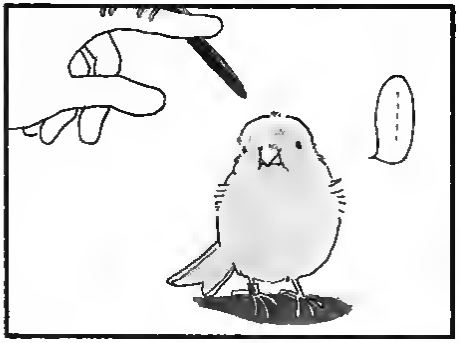

FALL
READING


PIPPIRA...
PII?
THE
TASTE
OF
FALL.


MY BIG SISTER CAME OVER TO HANG OUT.
HEY KIMIKO, HOW'VE YOU BEEN?
IT'S BEEN SEVERAL MONTHS SINCE LIFE WITH QUIET LITTLE KANAKO BEGAN.
I'M THE BRIGHT AND GOOD-NATURED ONE..!
BEEN A WHILE!
PIPPIRA, DO YOU REMEMBER TOKI?
.....
PARAKEETS HAVE VERY GOOD MEMORIES...
...YES.
THE ONE WITH AN "EX"-HUSBAND.
OH NOOO..
OH, SHE'S GETTING MAD....
AND I'VE ONLY RECENTLY STARTED TO UNDERSTAND A LITTLE BIT OF WHAT SHE'S THINKING.
WHAP!


...


I SEE, SO THAT'S KANAKO, THEN!
NICE TO MEET YOU!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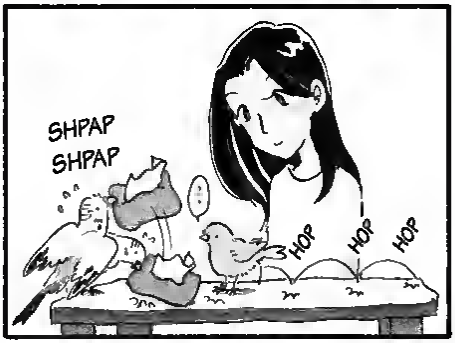
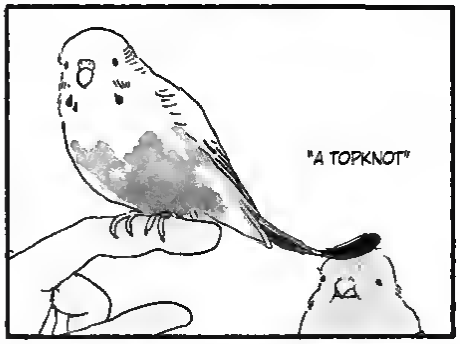
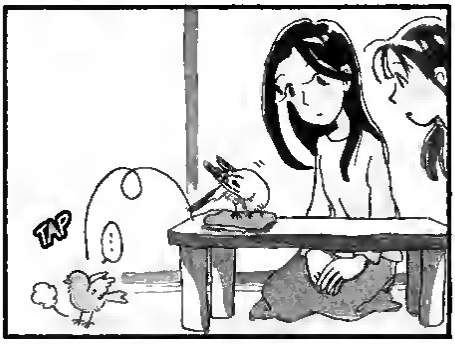
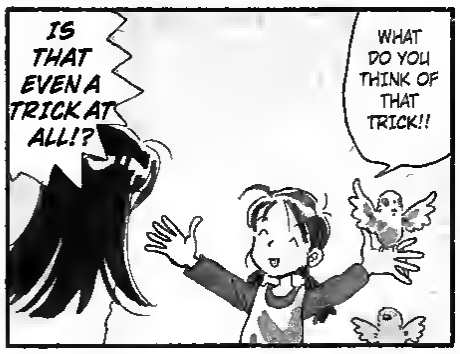
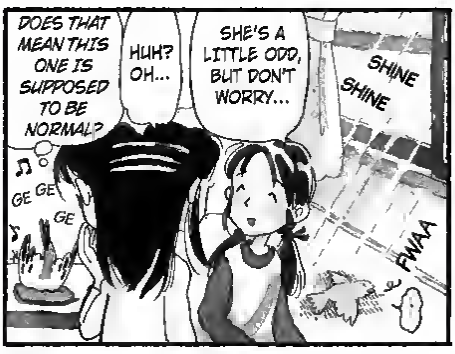
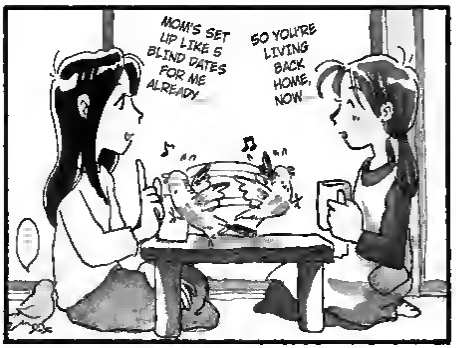

SHPAP
SHPAP
HOP
HOP
HOP

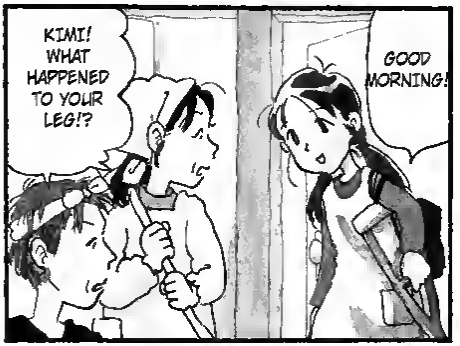

"A TOPKNOT"

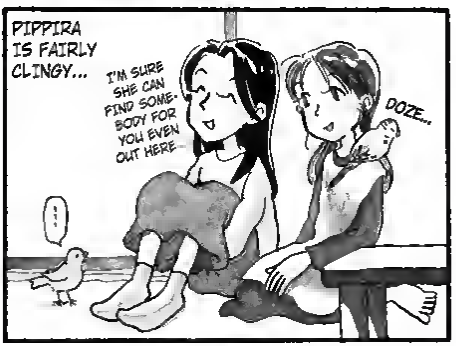

TAP


IS THAT EVEN A TRICK AT ALL!?
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT TRICK!!

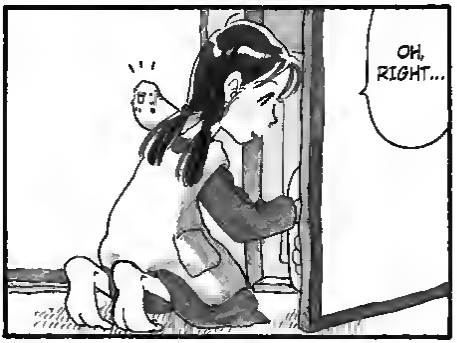

DOES THAT MEAN THIS ONE IS SUPPOSED TO BE NORMAL?
GE GE GE
HUH? OH...
SHE'S A LITTLE ODD, BUT DON'T WORRY...
SHINE SHINE
PWAA


MOM'S SET UP LIKE 5 BLIND DATES FOR ME ALREADY...
SO YOU'RE LIVING BACK HOME, NOW

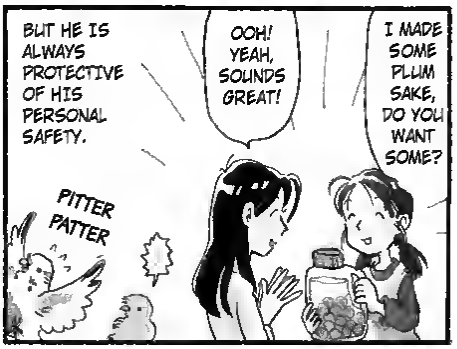

KIMI! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR LEG!?
GOOD MORNING!


PIPPIRA IS FAIRLY CLINGY...
I'M SURE SHE CAN FIND SOMEBODY FOR YOU EVEN OUT HERE...
DOZE...

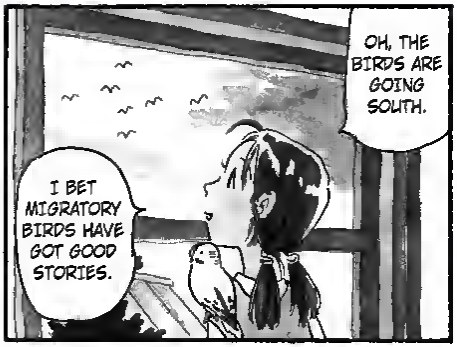
IS KIMIKO HERE?
EXCUSE ME...

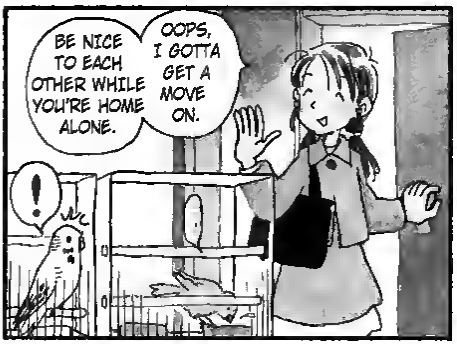

OH, RIGHT...

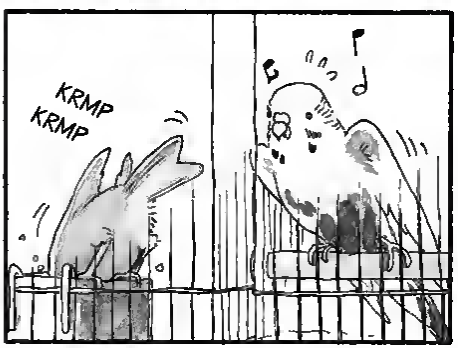
.....
.....
.....
I'M DEFINITELY FEELING YOUR SCORPION HOLD...
IT'S NO GOOD FOR EITHER OF US IF WE BOTH GET DRUNK...
YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO USE YOUR HEEL HOLD ANYMORE.

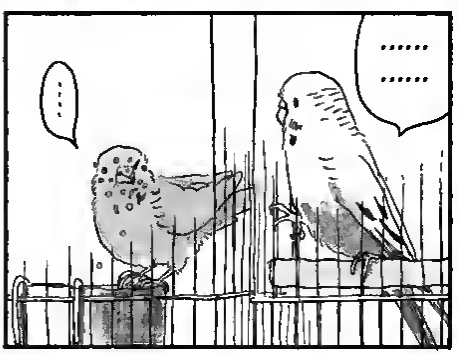

BUT HE IS ALWAYS PROTECTIVE OF HIS PERSONAL SAFETY.
OOH! YEAH, SOUNDS GREAT!
I MADE SOME PLUM SAKE, DO YOU WANT SOME?
PITTER PATTER

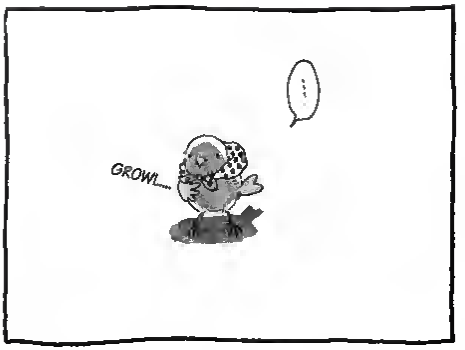
PART 79


OH, THE BIRDS ARE GOING SOUTH.
I BET MIGRATORY BIRDS HAVE GOT GOOD STORIES.

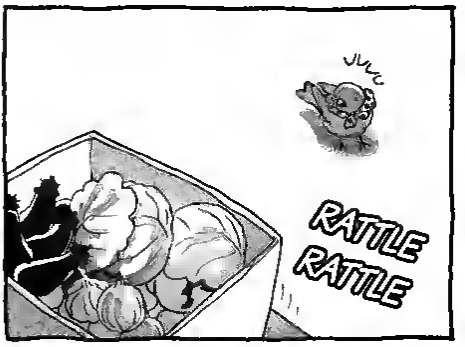

OOPS, I GOTTA GET A MOVE ON.
BE NICE TO EACH OTHER WHILE YOU'RE HOME ALONE.
!

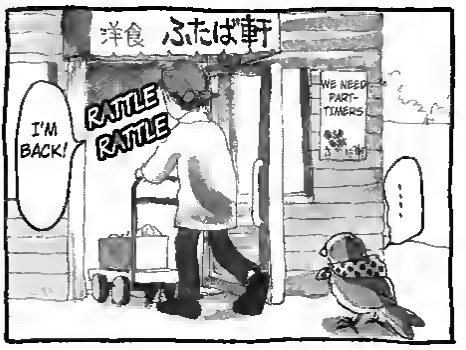

KRMP
KRMP

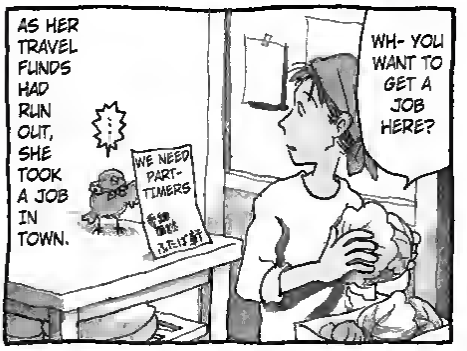

.....
.....
....

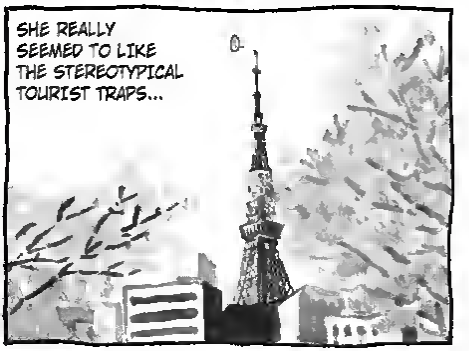

GROWL...

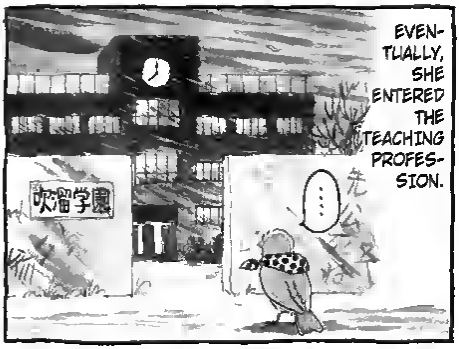
YES, ONCE UPON A TIME, KANAKO WAS A STRAY.

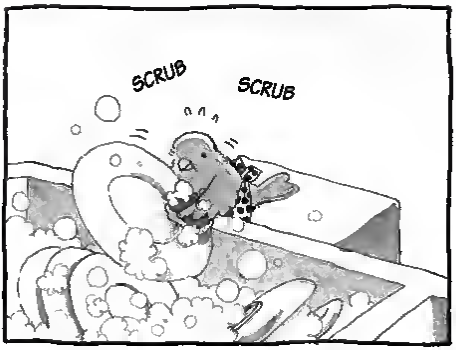

JUJU
RATTLE RATTLE


洋食 ふたば軒
I'M BACK!
RATTLE RATTLE
WE NEED PART-TIMERS

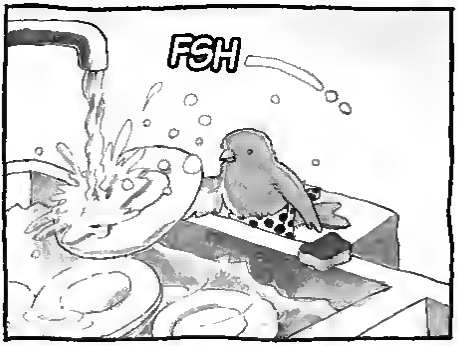

AS HER TRAVEL FUNDS HAD RUN OUT, SHE TOOK A JOB IN TOWN.
WE NEED PART-TIMERS
WH- YOU WANT TO GET A JOB HERE?

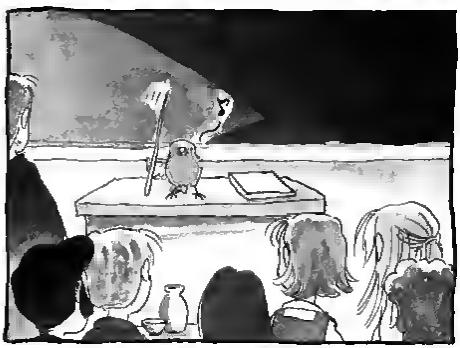

SHE REALLY SEEMED TO LIKE THE STEREOTYPICAL TOURIST TRAPS...


EVENTUALLY, SHE ENTERED THE TEACHING PROFESSION.
吹留学園

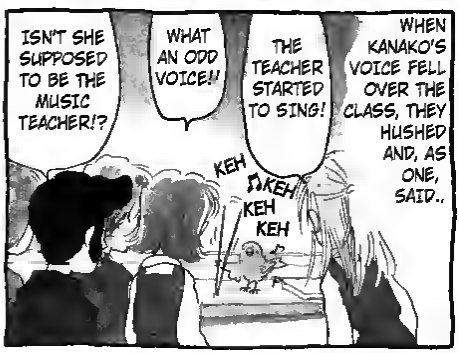

SCRUB
SCRUB

THUD
THUD
WOO
WOO
HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE

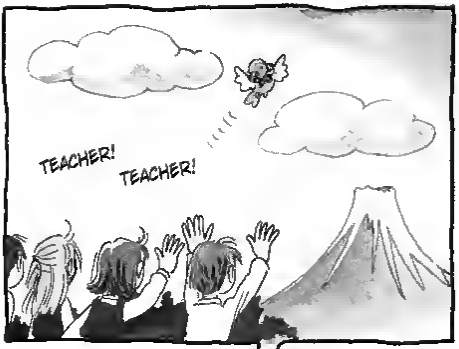

FSH

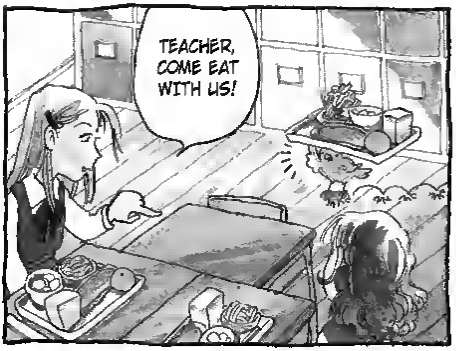


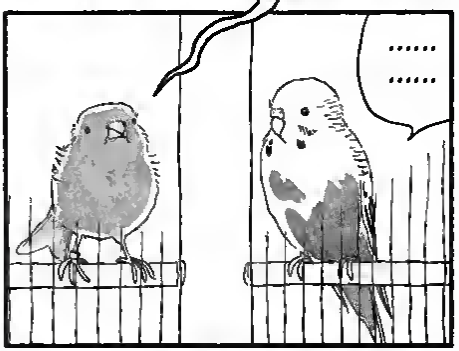
WIPE
WIPE


ISN'T SHE SUPPOSED TO BE THE MUSIC TEACHER!?
WHAT AN ODD VOICE!!
THE TEACHER STARTED TO SING!
WHEN KANAKO'S VOICE FELL OVER THE CLASS, THEY HUSHED AND, AS ONE, SAID..
KEH
♫KEH KEH KEH

AH, BY THE WAY, THIS IS A WORK OF FICTION. ANY RESEMBLANCE TO ANY DINING ESTABLISHMENT, LIVING OR DEAD, IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL.
THEY'RE SPARKLING!
WHOA! YOU'RE REALLY GOOD AT WASHING DISHES!


TEACHER!
TEACHER!


TEACHER, COME EAT WITH US!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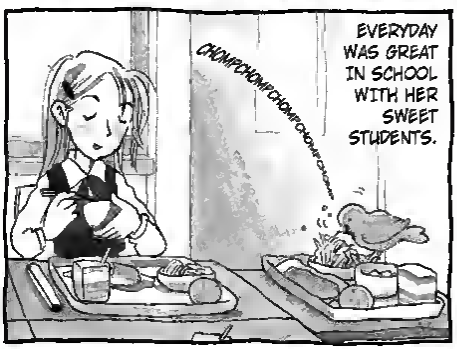
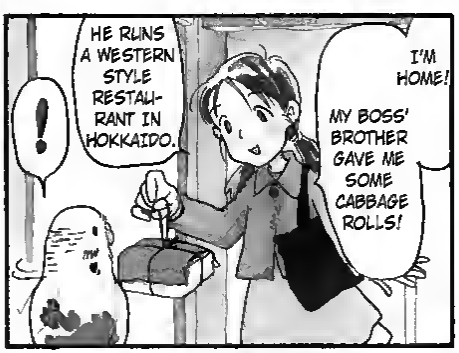
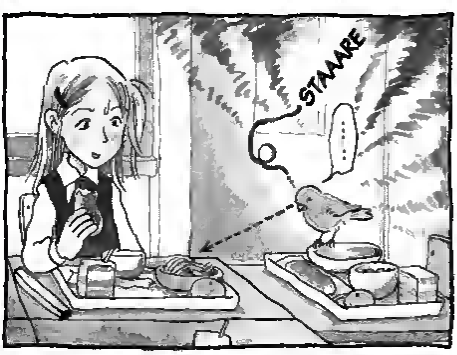
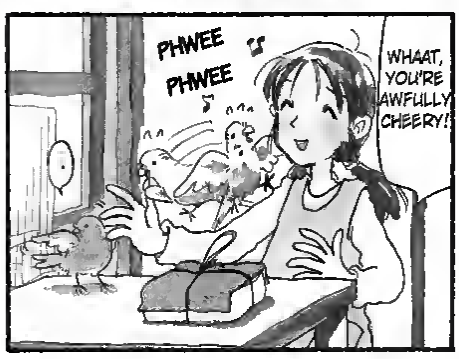
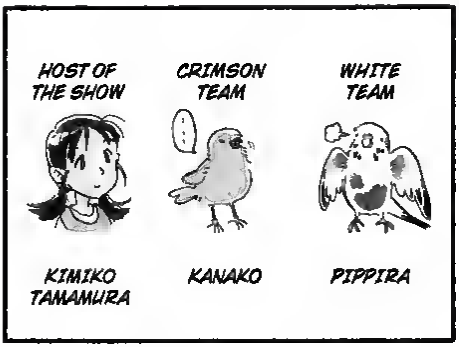

CHOMPCHOMPCHOMPCHOMPCHOMP
EVERYDAY WAS GREAT IN SCHOOL WITH HER SWEET STUDENTS.

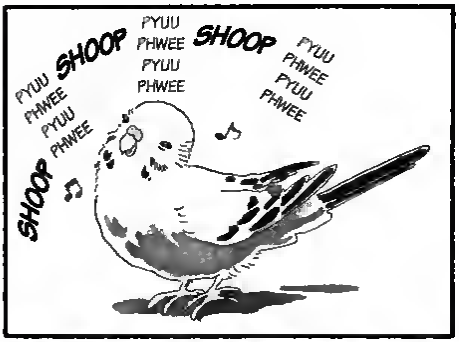

!
HE RUNS A WESTERN STYLE RESTAU-RANT IN HOKKAIDO.
I'M HOME!
MY BOSS' BROTHER GAVE ME SOME CABBAGE ROLLS!


STAARE


PHWEE
PHWEE
WHAAT, YOU'RE AWFULLY CHEERY!

THIS IS HOW KANAKO WAS FORCED TO LEAVE HER TEACHING POSITION.
FOR A TEACHER TO EAT THE ENTIRE CAFE-TERIA'S WORTH OF CABBAGE SALAD ALL BY THEMSELVES... IT'S SOME-THING OF A PROBLEM...


HOST OF THE SHOW
CRIMSON TEAM
WHITE TEAM
KIMIKO TAMAMURA
KANAKO
PIPPIRA

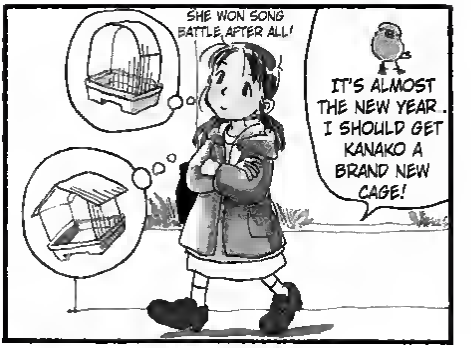

SHOOP
PYUU PHWEE PYUU PHWEE
SHOOP
PYUU PHWEE PYUU PHWEE
PYUU PHWEE PYUU PHWEE
SHOOP

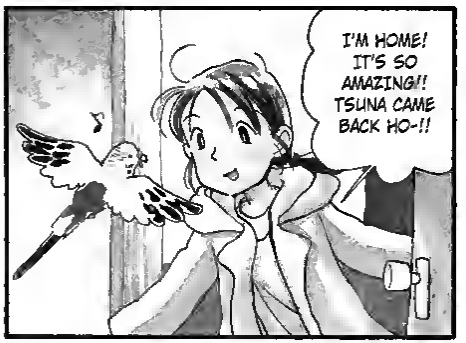
GWOAHHHHH
GWOAHH

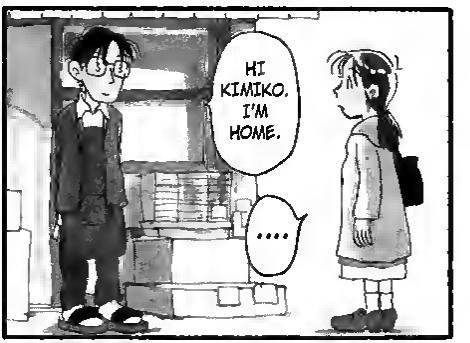
THIS HAS BEEN.. CRIMSON AND WHITE SONG BATTLE!
KWAH
KWO
THE CRIMSON TEAM WINS!!
GWEHH! I SURRENDER!!
CHI CHI CHI

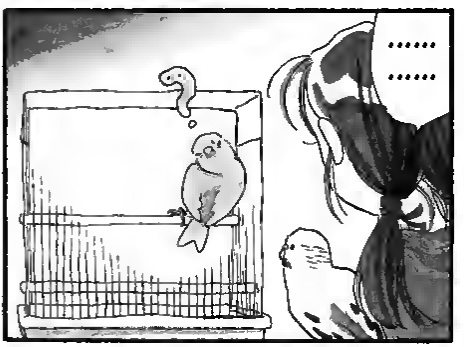
PART 80

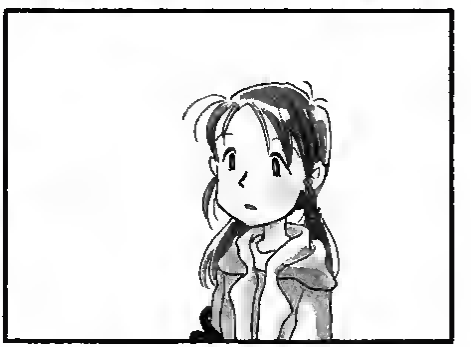
I WANT TO COME VISIT KANAKO SOON, THAT'S OKAY, RIGHT?

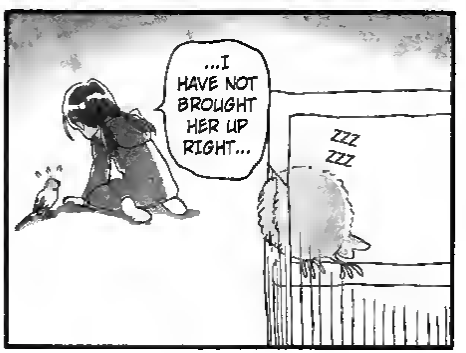

SHE WON SONG BATTLE, AFTER ALL!
IT'S ALMOST THE NEW YEAR. I SHOULD GET KANAKO A BRAND NEW CAGE!

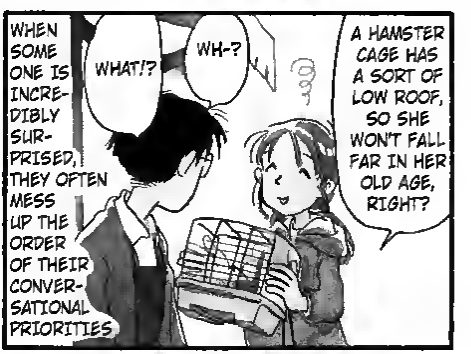

I'M HOME! IT'S SO AMAZING!! TSUNA CAME BACK HO-!!


HI KIMIKO. I'M HOME.
....

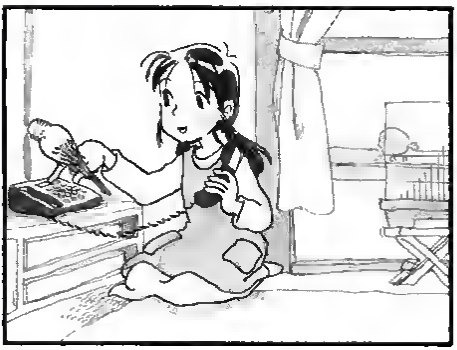

.....
.....

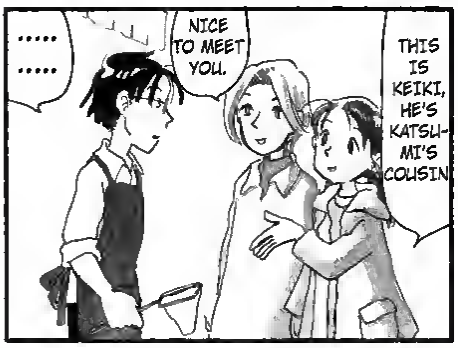


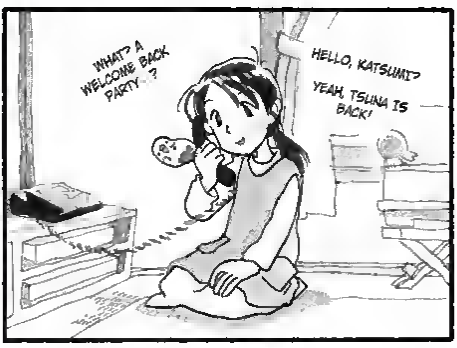

...I HAVE NOT BROUGHT HER UP RIGHT...
ZZZ
ZZZ

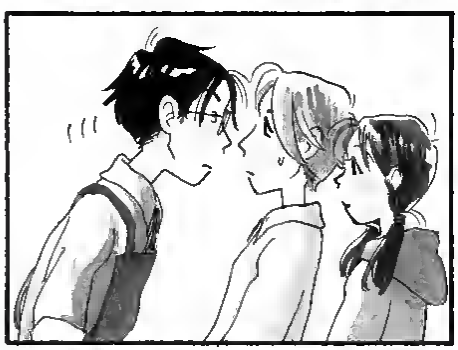

WHEN SOMEONE IS INCREDIBLY SURPRISED, THEY OFTEN MESS UP THE ORDER OF THEIR CONVERSATIONAL PRIORITIES
WHAT!?
WH-?
A HAMSTER CAGE HAS A SORT OF LOW ROOF, SO SHE WON'T FALL FAR IN HER OLD AGE, RIGHT?

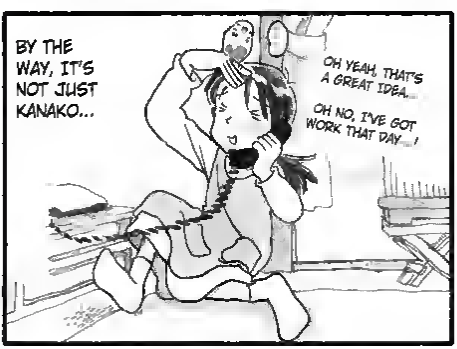
HI TSUNA.

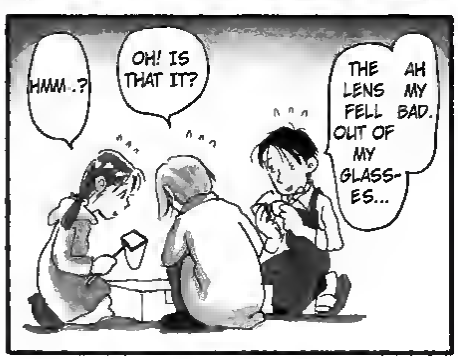


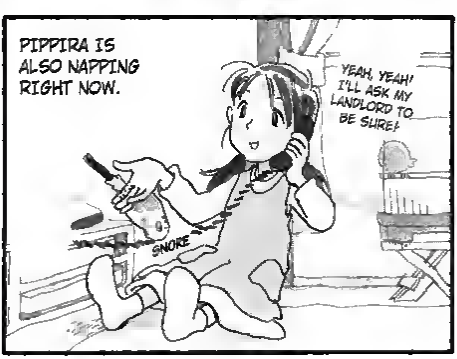

.....
.....
NICE TO MEET YOU.
THIS IS KEIKI, HE'S KATSUMI'S COUSIN

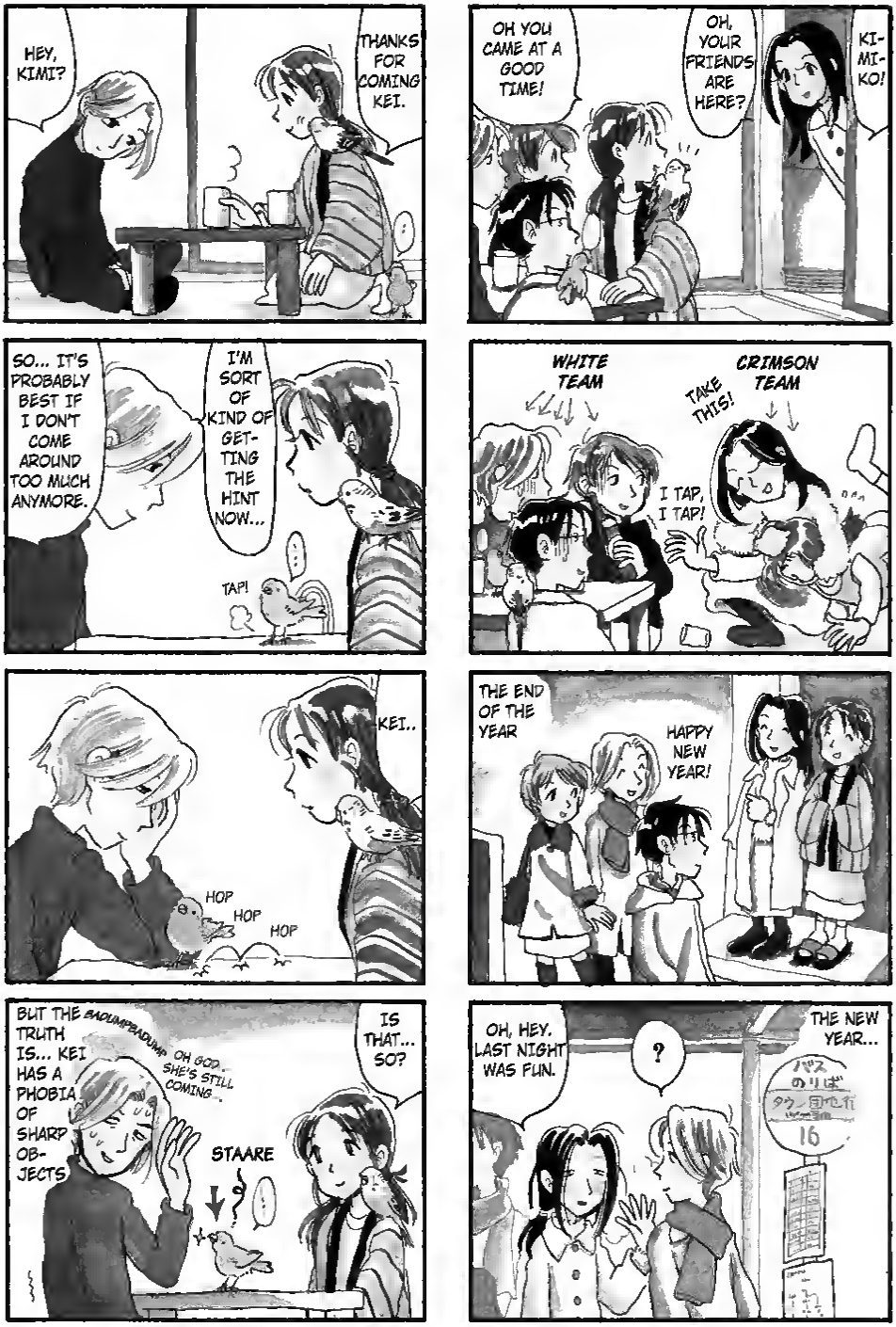

WHAT? A WELCOME BACK PARTY...?
HELLO, KATSUMI?
YEAH, TSUNA IS BACK!



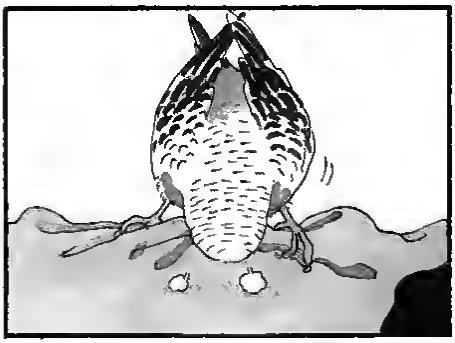

BY THE WAY, IT'S NOT JUST KANAKO...
OH YEAH, THAT'S A GREAT IDEA...
OH NO, I'VE GOT WORK THAT DAY...!

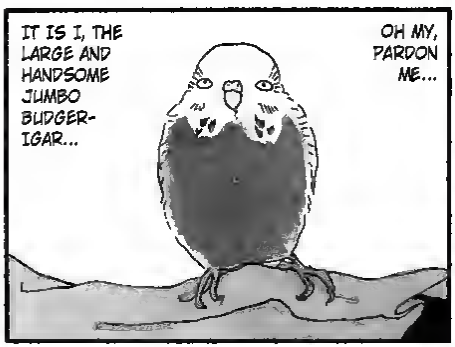

HMM..?
OH! IS THAT IT?
AH MY LENS FELL OUT OF MY GLASSES...


PIPPIRA IS ALSO NAPPING RIGHT NOW.
YEAH, YEAH! I'LL ASK MY LANDLORD TO BE SURE!
SNORE

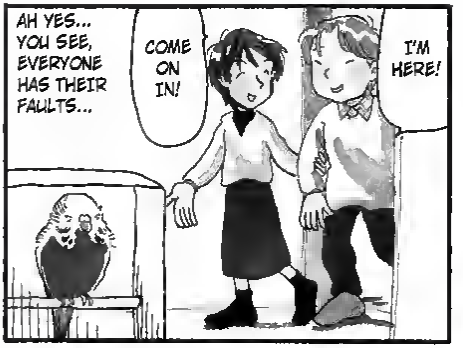

HEY, KIMI?
THANKS FOR COMING KEI.
OH YOU CAME AT A GOOD TIME!
OH, YOUR FRIENDS ARE HERE?
KI-MI-KO!
SO... IT'S PROBABLY BEST IF I DON'T COME AROUND TOO MUCH ANYMORE.
I'M SORT OF KIND OF GET-TING THE HINT NOW...
TAP!
WHITE TEAM
CRIMSON TEAM
TAKE THIS!
I TAP, I TAP!
KEI..
HOP
HOP
HOP
THE END OF THE YEAR
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
BUT THE TRUTH IS... KEI HAS A PHOBIA OF SHARP OB-JECTS
BADUMPBADUMP
OH GOD. SHE'S STILL COMING.
STAARE
IS THAT... SO?
OH, HEY. LAST NIGHT WAS FUN.
?
THE NEW YEAR...
16

PART 81

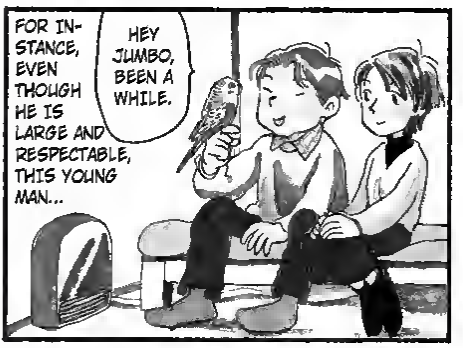


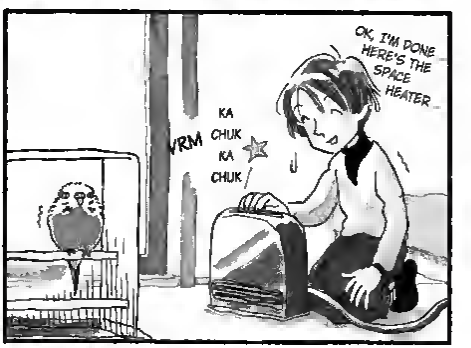

IT IS I, THE LARGE AND HANDSOME JUMBO BUDGER-IGAR...
OH MY, PARDON ME...

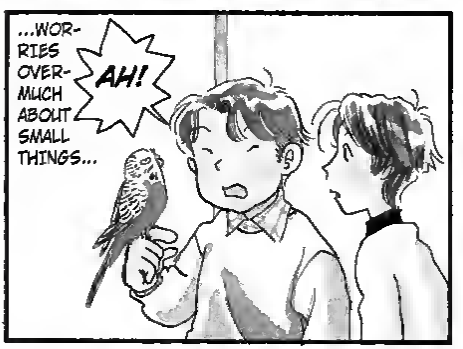
AWHHH!
AND I JUST FINISHED IRONING THIS!
HMPH.
I HOPE YOUR NEW YEAR STARTS UP WELL, WITHOUT A SINGLE WRINKLE.

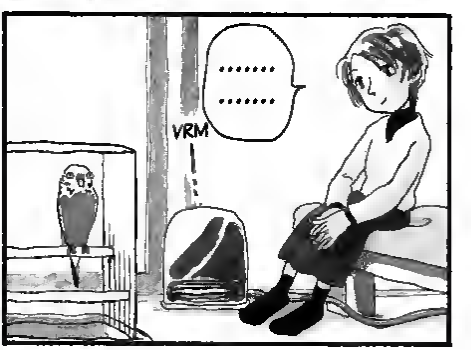

AH YES... YOU SEE, EVERYONE HAS THEIR FAULTS...
COME ON IN!
I'M HERE!

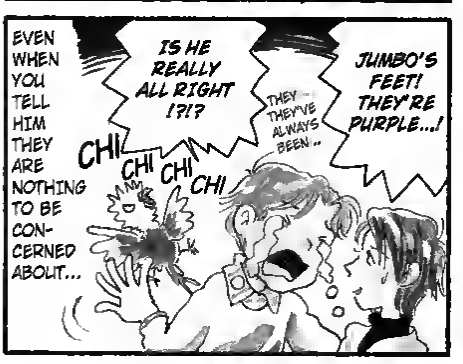
SO COLD
WOOOSH
MY COWORKER'S COMING TODAY!

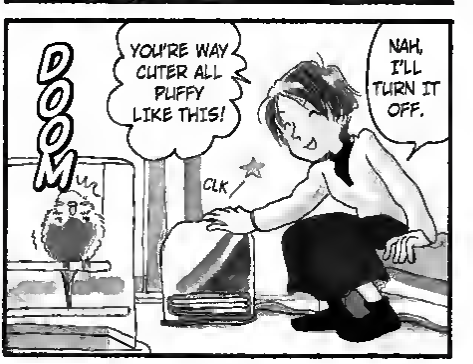

FOR INSTANCE, EVEN THOUGH HE IS LARGE AND RESPECTABLE, THIS YOUNG MAN...
HEY JUMBO, BEEN A WHILE.


OK, I'M DONE HERE'S THE SPACE HEATER
VRM
KA CHUK KA CHUK


...WORRIES OVERMUCH ABOUT SMALL THINGS...
AH!

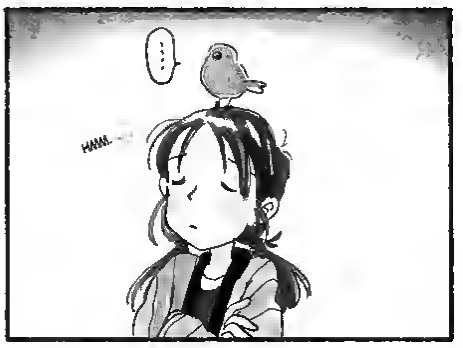

.....
.....
VRM

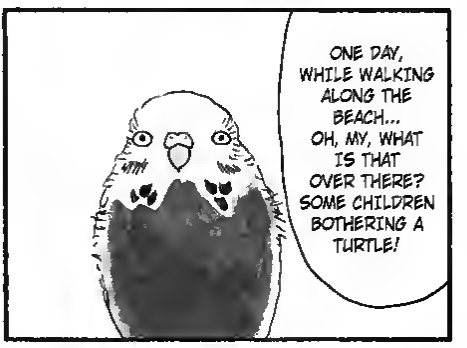

EVEN WHEN YOU TELL HIM THEY ARE NOTHING TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT...
IS HE REALLY ALL RIGHT!?!?
THEY... THEY'VE ALWAYS BEEN..
JUMBO'S FEET! THEY'RE PURPLE...!
CHI CHI CHI CHI

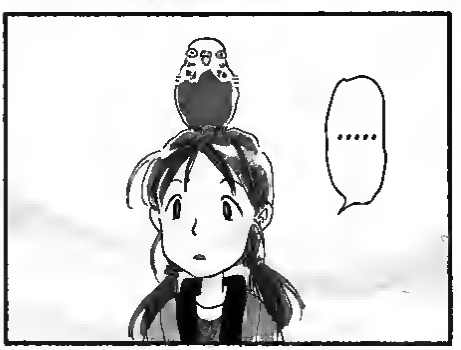

DOOM
YOU'RE WAY CUTER ALL PUFFY LIKE THIS!
NAH, I'LL TURN IT OFF.
CLK

HMMM

A LONG TIME AGO, FAR FAR AWAY... A YOUNG MAN LIVED ALL ALONE...


...
HMM...


ONE DAY, WHILE WALKING ALONG THE BEACH... OH, MY, WHAT IS THAT OVER THERE? SOME CHILDREN BOTHERING A TURTLE!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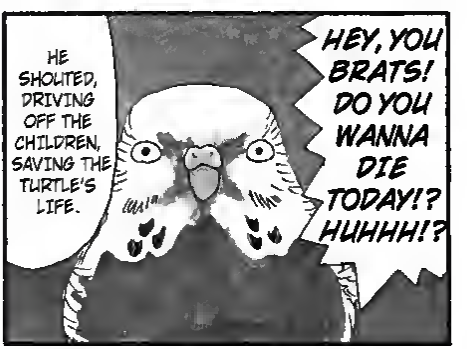
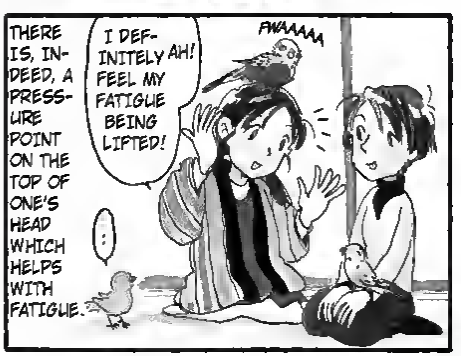
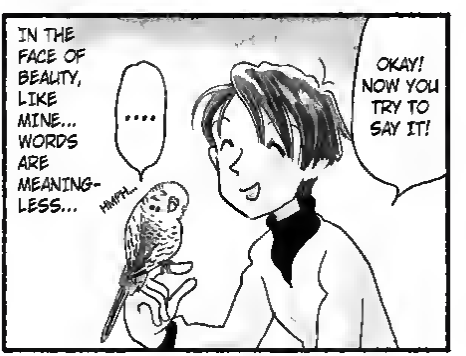
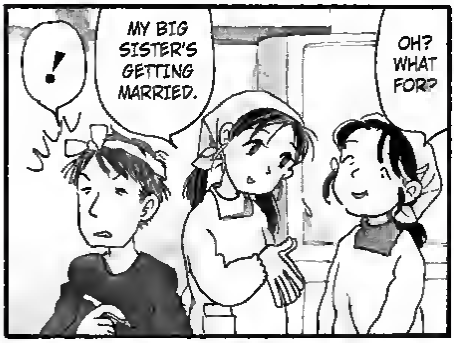

HE SHOUTED, DRIVING OFF THE CHILDREN, SAVING THE TURTLE'S LIFE.
HEY, YOU BRATS! DO YOU WANNA DIE TODAY!? HUHHH!?

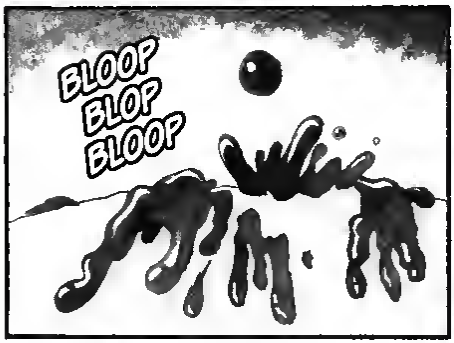

THERE IS, INDEED, A PRESSURE POINT ON THE TOP OF ONE'S HEAD WHICH HELPS WITH FATIGUE.
I DEFINITELY FEEL MY FATIGUE BEING LIFTED!
AH!
FWAAAAA


IN THE FACE OF BEAUTY, LIKE MINE... WORDS ARE MEANINGLESS...
....
HMPH...
OKAY! NOW YOU TRY TO SAY IT!

MYSELF ON A SUNNY DAY...
WHAT SHOULD I WEAR?
NEXT MONTH, THAT WEDDING...
MYSELF ON A CLOUDY DAY...
YEAH, GOIN' WITH THIS
AND THIS IS MYSELF ON... WELL WHAT SORT OF DAY IS THIS...?
IT'S A LITTLE PLAIN
NO... I'M FINE, GET OFF... YOU'RE CREEPING ME OUT...
COUGH COUGH
A SNOWY DAY WHEN I AM ON A VISIT TO MY SERVANT, SICK IN BED WITH A COLD...
I THINK I'LL WEAR A CORSAGE
YOU LOOK GREAT, KATSUKI!
WOW!
WOW! AWESOME!!

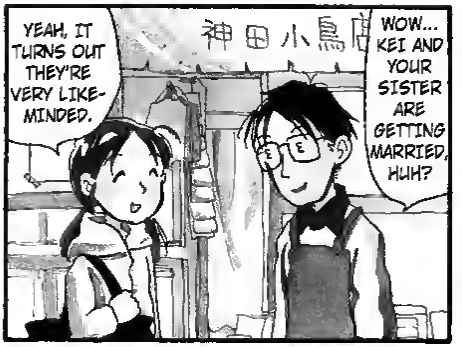
UM, COULD I HAVE THIS DAY OFF, PLEASE?

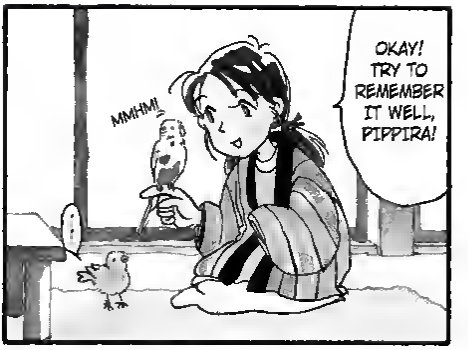

!
MY BIG SISTER'S GETTING MARRIED.
OH? WHAT FOR?


BLOOP
BLOP
BLOOP

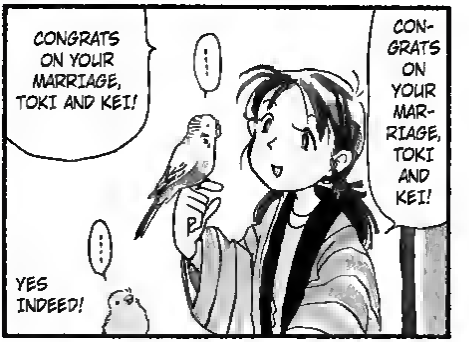
DOES IT REALLY HAVE TO BE THAT BLOODY..?
ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY BEING MARRIED IS LIKE BEING STABBED AND LEFT TO BLEED OUT...
I GOT IT! TODAY'S LUNCH SPECIAL IS GOING TO BE THE "WE'RE BLOOD NOW..." SET.

PART 82

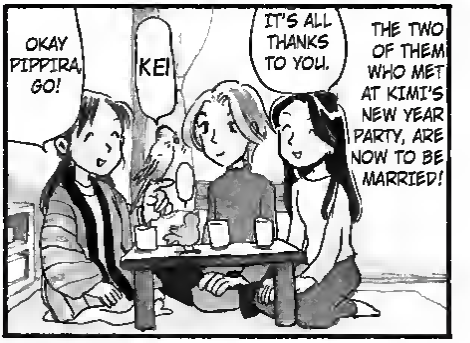

YEAH, IT TURNS OUT THEY'RE VERY LIKE-MINDED.
神田小鳥店
WOW... KEI AND YOUR SISTER ARE GETTING MARRIED, HUH?

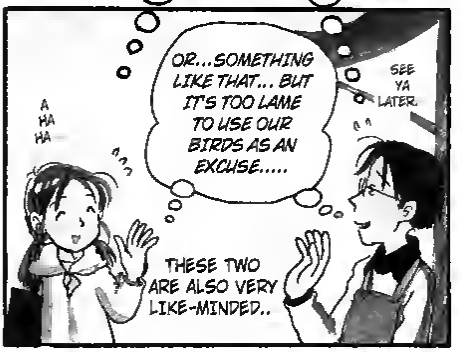

MMHM!
OKAY! TRY TO REMEMBER IT WELL, PIPPIRA!

.....
.....
小鳥店


CONGRATS ON YOUR MARRIAGE, TOKI AND KEI!
CON-GRATS ON YOUR MAR-RIAGE, TOKI AND KEI!
YES INDEED!

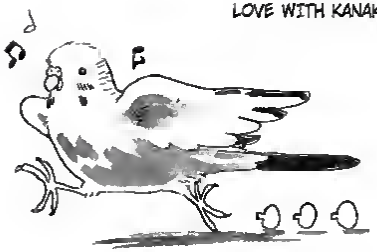
THEY'VE REALLY GOTTEN TO BE GOOD FRIENDS, IT'D BE A SHAME TO SPLIT THEM APART..
YEAH!
HEY! WHY DON'T WE GET MARRIED TOO! WE CAN RAISE PIPPIRA AND KANAKO TOGETHER!!

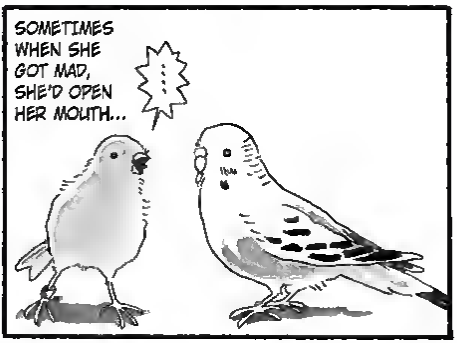

OKAY PIPPIRA, GO!
KEI
IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU.
THE TWO OF THEM WHO MET AT KIMI'S NEW YEAR PARTY, ARE NOW TO BE MARRIED!

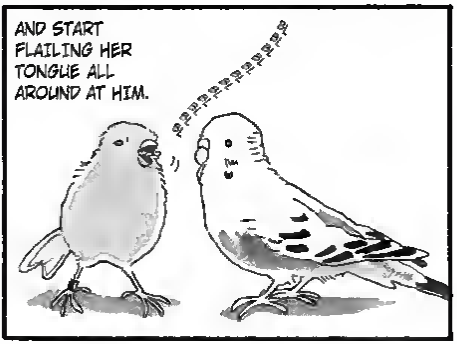

A HA HA
OR...SOMETHING LIKE THAT... BUT IT'S TOO LAME TO USE OUR BIRDS AS AN EXCUSE.....
SEE YA LATER.
THESE TWO ARE ALSO VERY LIKE-MINDED..

OH NO WAY! THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NO WAY!!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DENY IT THAT HARD I'LL GET A COMPLEX
KIMIKO, YOU CAN'T BE IN L-
KEI..
KEI!
KEI!
BUT PARA-KEETS ARE SOME-TIMES QUITE INEX-PLIC-ABLE CREA-TURES...

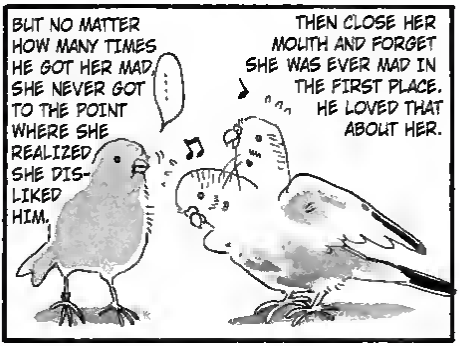
IT'S TRUE, BY THIS TIME PIPPIRA HAD REALLY FALLEN IN LOVE WITH KANAKO.

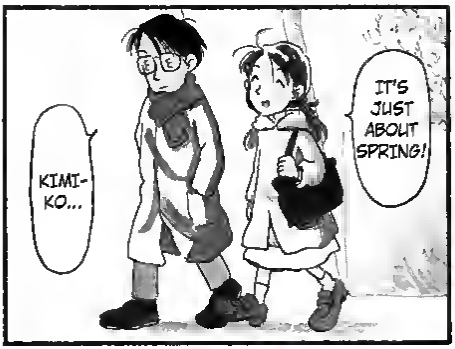




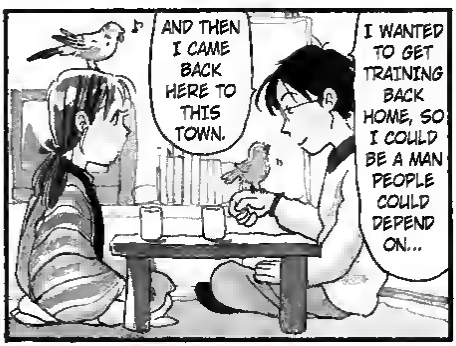


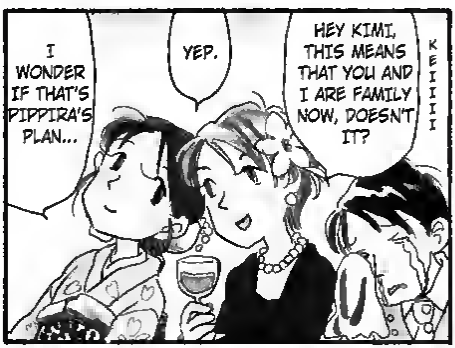
..KIMI...?
WAIT... ARE YOU KIMI?
I FELL ASLEEP ON THE TRAIN.
I WAS SO ANXIOUS I DIDN'T GET ANY SLEEP ALL NIGHT... I HOPE I DON'T HAVE CIRCLES UNDER MY EYES...


BUT NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES HE GOT HER MAD, SHE NEVER GOT TO THE POINT WHERE SHE REALIZED SHE DISLIKED HIM.
THEN CLOSE HER MOUTH AND FORGET SHE WAS EVER MAD IN THE FIRST PLACE. HE LOVED THAT ABOUT HER.


KIMI-KO...
IT'S JUST ABOUT SPRING!

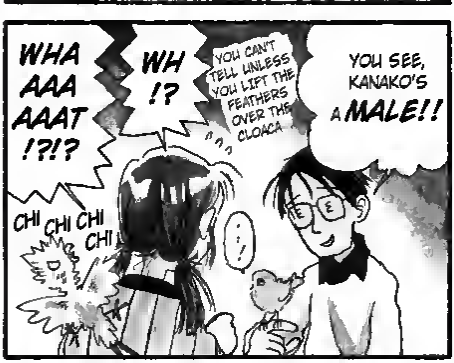
TOKIKO
KEI
HERE, I'LL FIX IT


AND THEN I CAME BACK HERE TO THIS TOWN.
I WANTED TO GET TRAINING BACK HOME, SO I COULD BE A MAN PEOPLE COULD DEPEND ON...


I WONDER IF THAT'S PIPPIRA'S PLAN...
YEP.
HEY KIMI, THIS MEANS THAT YOU AND I ARE FAMILY NOW, DOESN'T IT?
KEIIIII

TSU-NA....
BUT I ALSO CAME TO TELL YOU SOME-THING... VERY IMPORTANT.
OF COURSE IT'S BEEN MY DREAM TO RUN MY AUNT'S STORE.

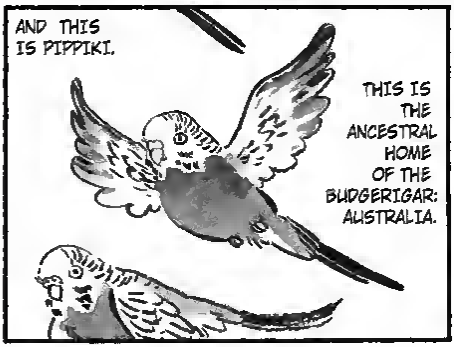
ALL RIGHT, WHO WANTS TO SLAP FIGHT THE BRIDE! LINE UP!
WOO!
BUT KEI FOUND A REALLY GREAT WIFE...

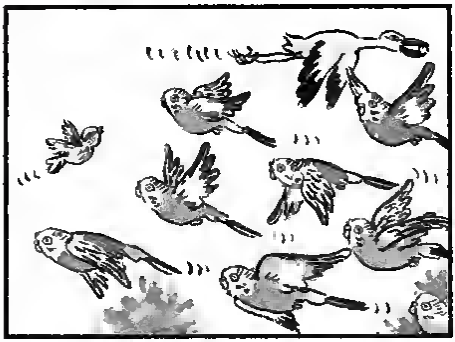

WHA AAA AAAT !?!?
WH !?
YOU CAN'T TELL UNLESS YOU LIFT THE FEATHERS OVER THIS CLOACA
YOU SEE, KANAKO'S A MALE!!
CHI CHI CHI CHI

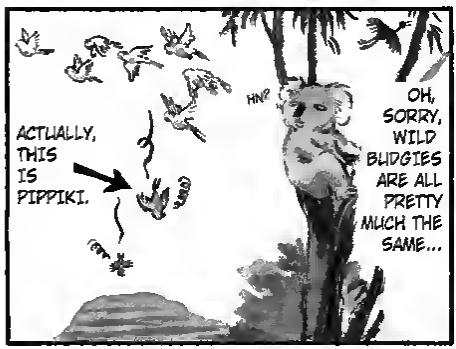
I WILL TAKE A CHALLENGE FROM ANYONE ANY TIME!!
WHAT !?
OH, THEY TOOK THEIR COUPLE'S DRINK!
TOKI... TOKI, NO....!
BECAUSE SHE CAN EVEN TAKE ON MY BIG BROTHER!
KEIII
CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP

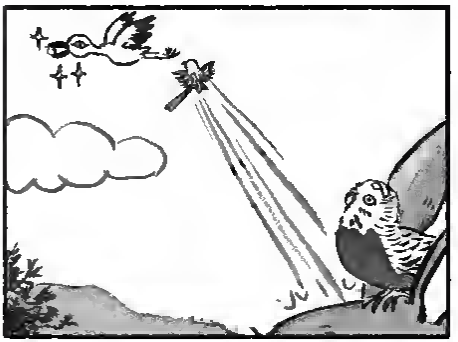
(THE END)

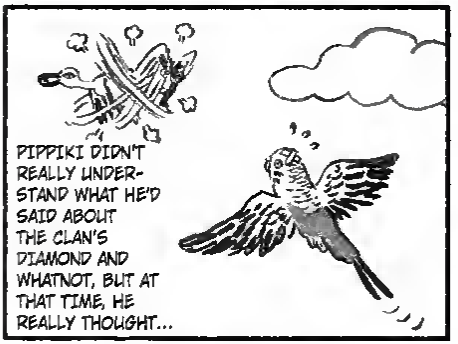
EXTRA STORY 1
PIPPIKI'S ADVENTURE NOTES

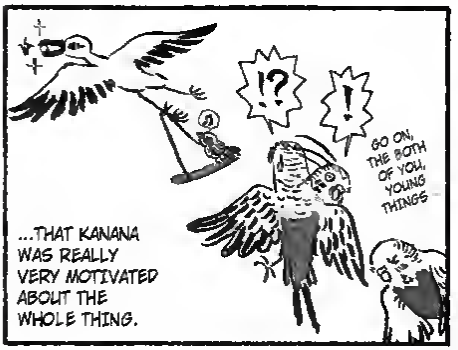






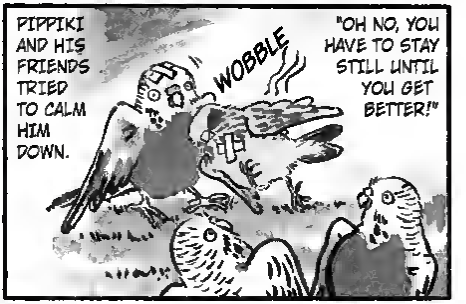


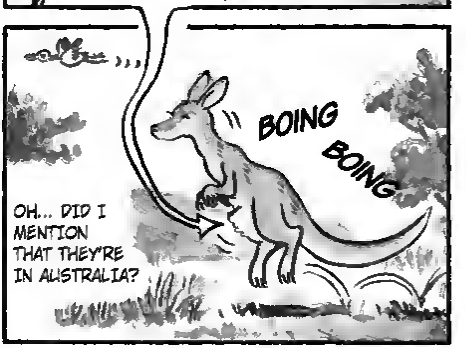

PIPPIKI DIDN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT HE'D SAID ABOUT THE CLAN'S DIAMOND AND WHATNOT, BUT AT THAT TIME, HE REALLY THOUGHT...


!?
!
GO ON, THE BOTH OF YOU, YOUNG THINGS
...THAT KANANA WAS REALLY VERY MOTIVATED ABOUT THE WHOLE THING.

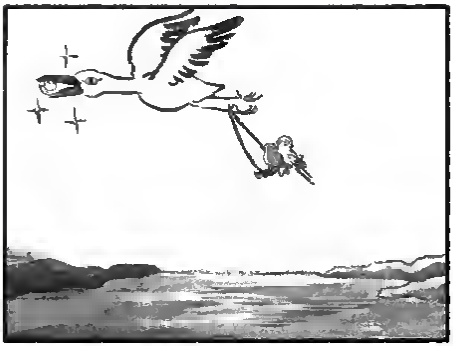
HE CAME FROM A FARAWAY ISLAND.
救護室
THE BIRD THAT HIT HIM IS KANANA.

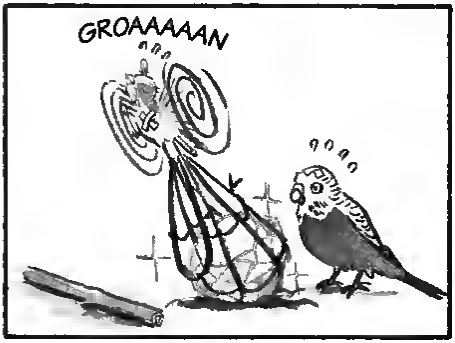
HIS CLAN'S PRIZED DIAMOND WAS STOLEN.

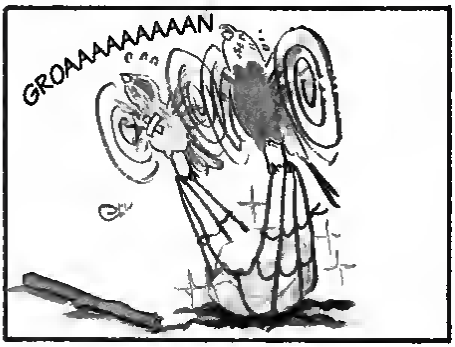

PIPPIKI AND HIS FRIENDS TRIED TO CALM HIM DOWN.
WOBBLE
"OH NO, YOU HAVE TO STAY STILL UNTIL YOU GET BETTER!"

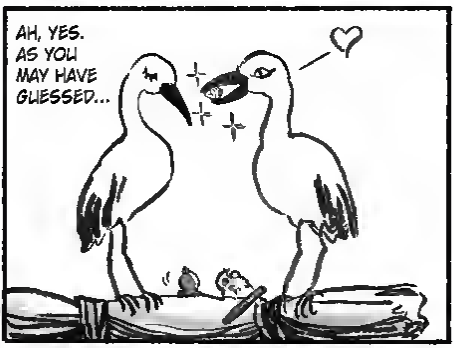

BOING
BOING
OH... DID I MENTION THAT THEY'RE IN AUSTRALIA?

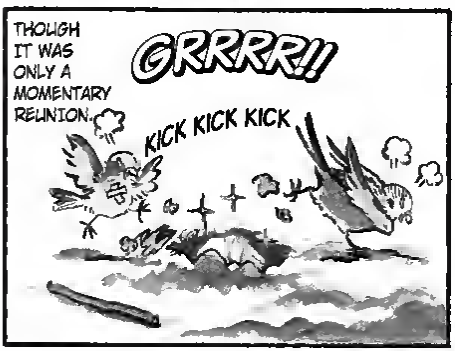
IN THE END, THEY MANAGED TO SAFELY RETRIEVE THE GEM.

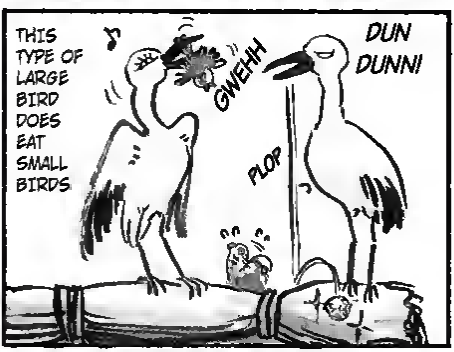


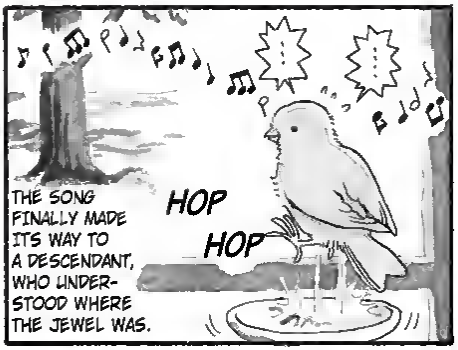

GROAAAAAN

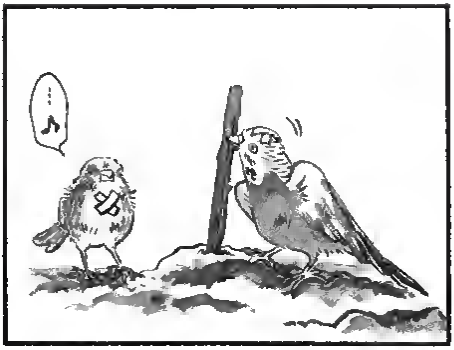

GROAAAAAAAAN

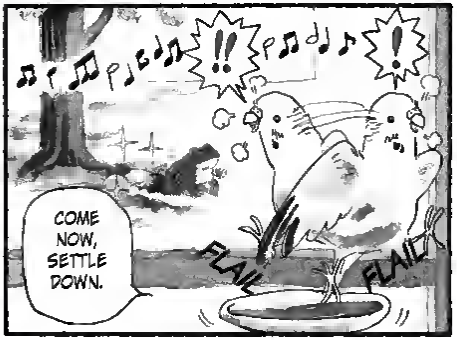

AH, YES. AS YOU MAY HAVE GUESSED...

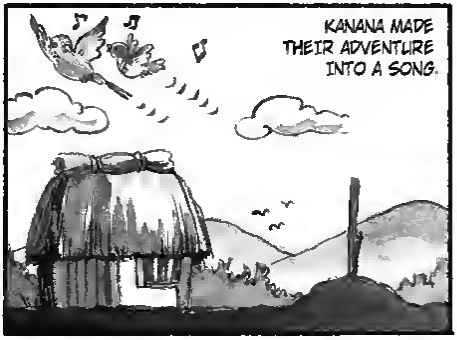

THOUGH IT WAS ONLY A MOMENTARY REUNION.
GRRRR!!
KICK KICK KICK

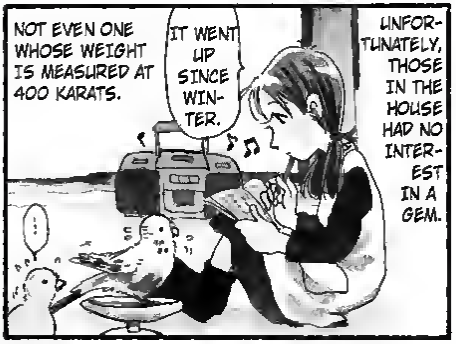

THIS TYPE OF LARGE BIRD DOES EAT SMALL BIRDS
GWEHH
PLOP
DUN DUNN!


THE SONG FINALLY MADE ITS WAY TO A DESCENDANT, WHO UNDERSTOOD WHERE THE JEWEL WAS.
HOP
HOP

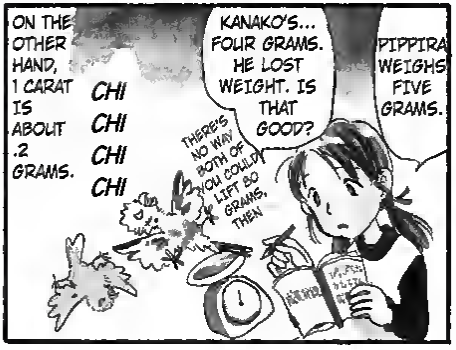


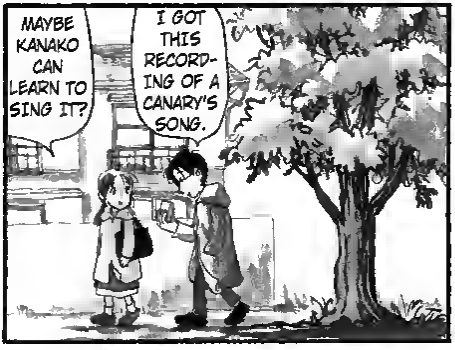

COME NOW, SETTLE DOWN.
FLAIL
FLAIL


KANANA MADE THEIR ADVENTURE INTO A SONG.

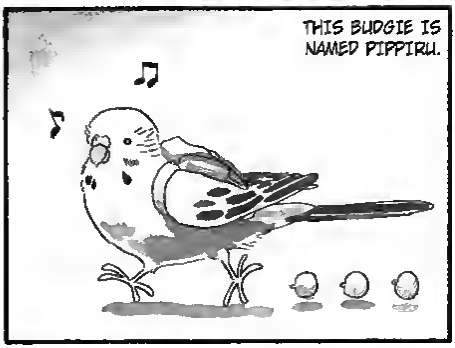

NOT EVEN ONE WHOSE WEIGHT IS MEASURED AT 400 KARATS.
IT WENT UP SINCE WINTER.
UNFORTUNATELY, THOSE IN THE HOUSE HAD NO INTEREST IN A GEM.

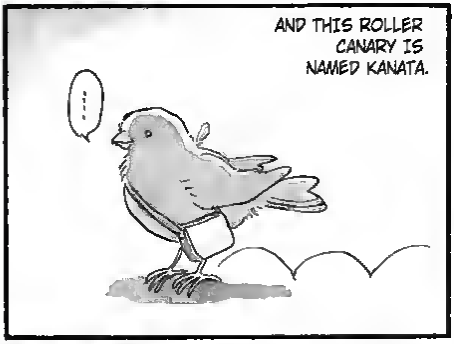
HOPING THAT ONE DAY, HIS FRIENDS OR HIS ANCESTORS WOULD USE IT TO FIND THE JEWEL, SO THAT IT WOULD NOT BE LOST FOREVER.

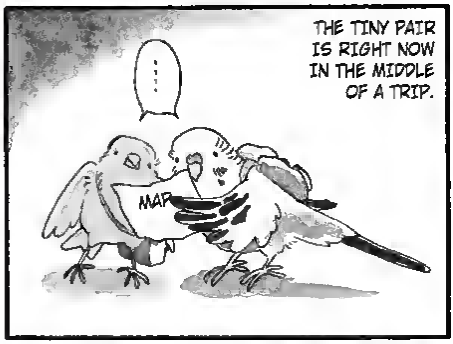

ON THE OTHER HAND, 1 CARAT IS ABOUT .2 GRAMS.
CHI
CHI
CHI
CHI
KANAKO'S... FOUR GRAMS. HE LOST WEIGHT. IS THAT GOOD?
THERE'S NO WAY BOTH OF YOU COULD LIFT 80 GRAMS, THEN
PIPPIRA WEIGHS FIVE GRAMS.

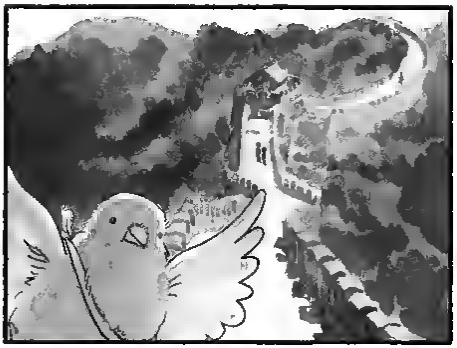

MAYBE KANAKO CAN LEARN TO SING IT?
I GOT THIS RECORDING OF A CANARY'S SONG.

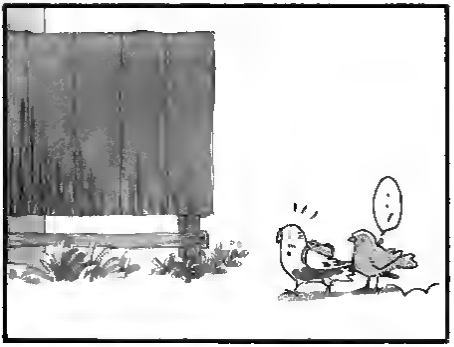
EXTRA STORY 2
PIPPIRU'S ADVENTURE NOTES







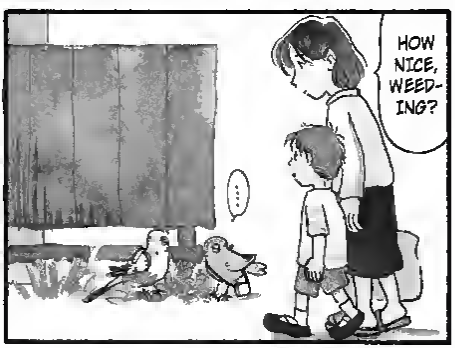


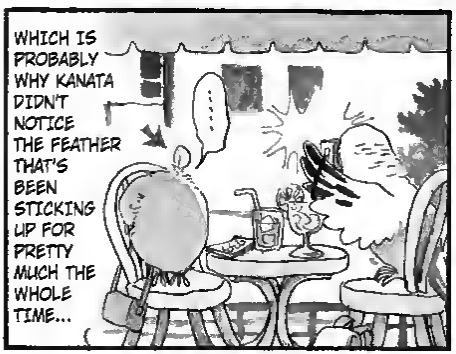


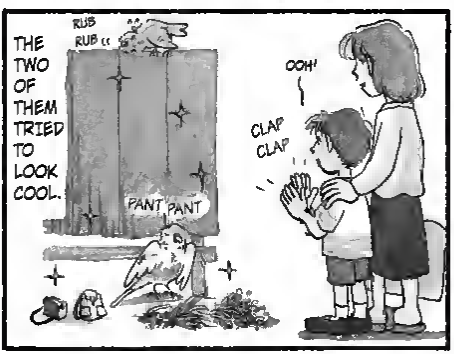
WHY IS IT THAT WE LONGED TO GO ON THIS TRIP?

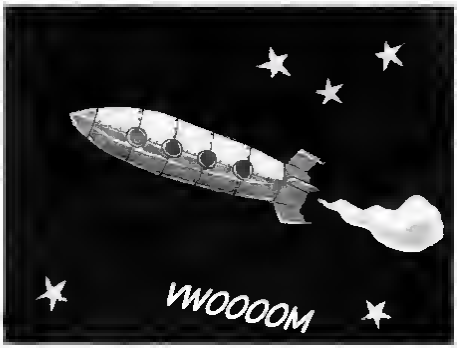
KRM KRM KRM

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE WE WANTED TO LOOK THE WORLD OVER IN OUR OWN EYES, SEE IT FOR OURSELVES.

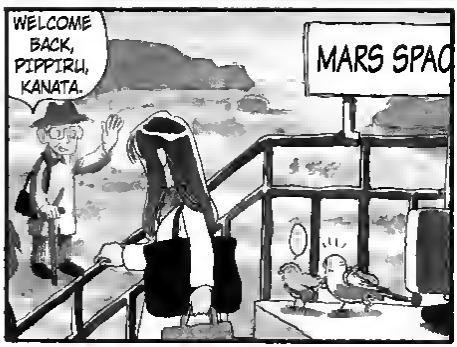

HOW NICE, WEEDING?

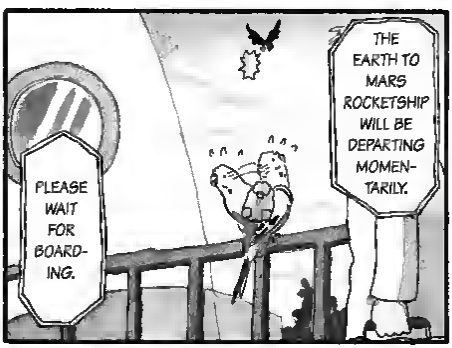

WHICH IS PROBABLY WHY KANATA DIDN'T NOTICE THE FEATHER THAT'S BEEN STICKING UP FOR PRETTY MUCH THE WHOLE TIME...

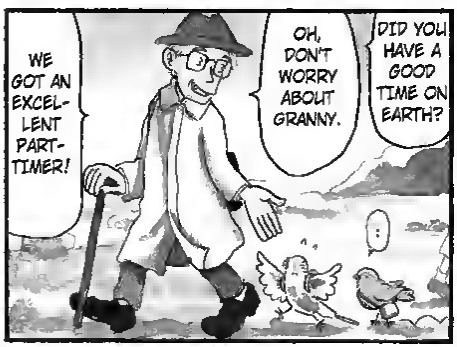

THE TWO OF THEM TRIED TO LOOK COOL.
RUB RUB
PANT PANT
OOH!
CLAP CLAP

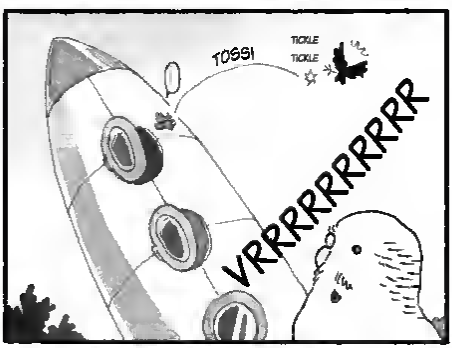

VWOOOOM

!!!
SNATCH!

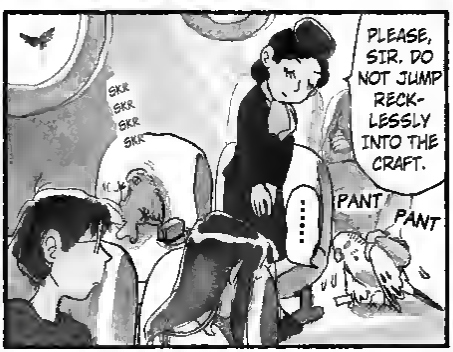

WELCOME BACK, PIPPIRU, KANATA.
MARS SPAC


THE EARTH TO MARS ROCKETSHIP WILL BE DEPARTING MOMENTARILY.
PLEASE WAIT FOR BOARDING.

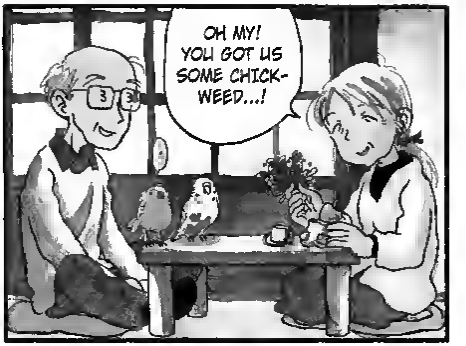

WE GOT AN EXCELLENT PART-TIMER!
OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT GRANNY.
DID YOU HAVE A GOOD TIME ON EARTH?

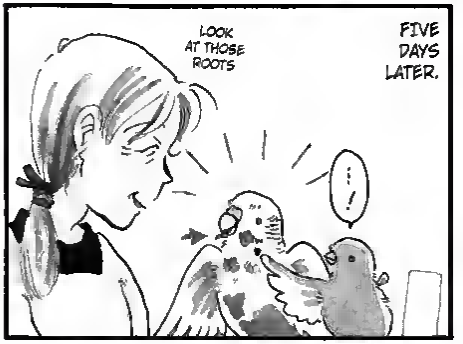

TOSS!
TICKLE TICKLE
VRRRRRRRRR

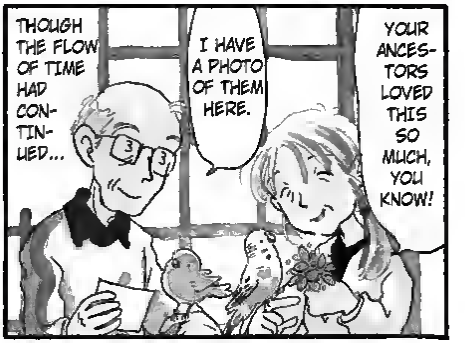
KANDA DINER
SUCH A HELP

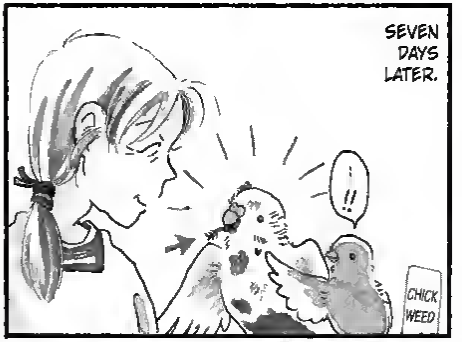

SKR SKR SKR SKR
PLEASE, SIR. DO NOT JUMP RECKLESSLY INTO THE CRAFT.
PANT
PANT

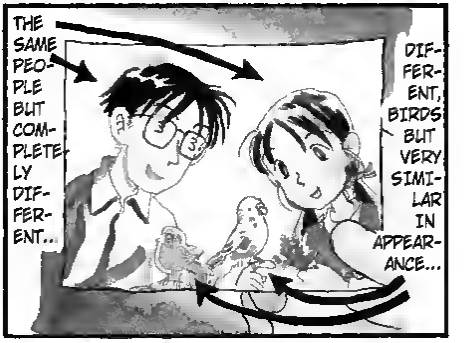
WE HAVE SEEDS, TOO, SO LET'S PLANT THEM.
CHICK WEED

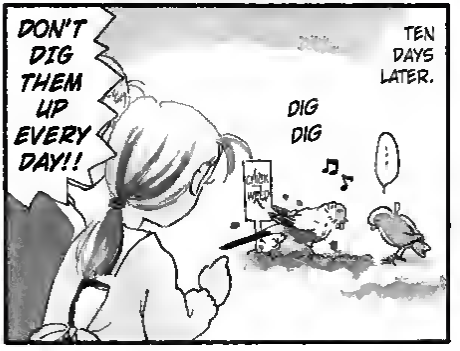

OH MY! YOU GOT US SOME CHICK-WEED...!


FIVE DAYS LATER.
LOOK AT THOSE ROOTS
!!

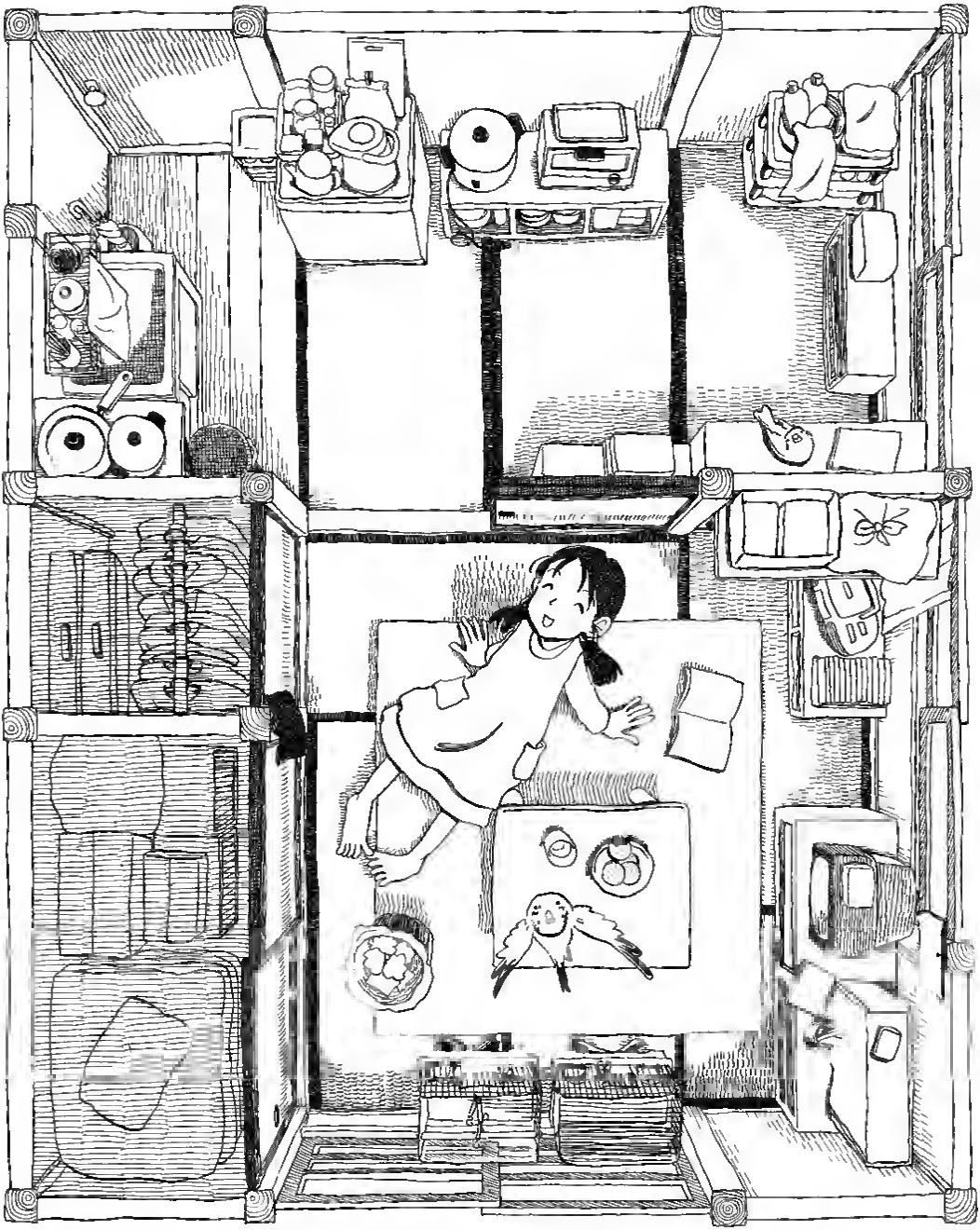

THOUGH THE FLOW OF TIME HAD CON-TIN-UED...
I HAVE A PHOTO OF THEM HERE.
YOUR ANCES-TORS LOVED THIS SO MUCH, YOU KNOW!


SEVEN DAYS LATER.
!!
CHICK WEED


THE SAME PEO-PLE BUT COM-PLETE-LY DIF-FER-ENT...
DIF-FER-ENT, BIRDS BUT VERY SIMI-LAR IN APPEAR-ANCE...


DON'T DIG THEM UP EVERY DAY!!
TEN DAYS LATER.
DIG DIG
CHICK WEED

どっひゃひゃ
WAHAHAHA
AND FOR SOME REASON THEY THINK THAT'S VERY FUNNY? WHO KNOWS.



IN THE END

I'VE HEARD THAT IN A PERSON'S LIFE THERE IS ONE STORY THAT THEY ALONE WERE PUT ON THE EARTH TO DRAW. FOR ME, THAT'S THIS STORY. THE DAYS I LIVED TOGETHER WITH MY BUDGIES SUZUSHIRO AND PLASMA, AND MY CANARY TAMA, WERE THE BEST DAYS OF MY LIFE. WHETHER I'VE BEEN ABLE TO DRAW THEM EFFECTIVELY OR NOT, I'M FINISHED NOW.

THE THINGS I LIKED THE MOST ABOUT IT WERE... PROBABLY THE FACT THAT I APPENDED -SAN TO THE NAME OF ALL THE BIRDS. (THOUGH THE TRANSLATOR LEFT IT OUT OF THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION -T) ALSO, I WAS HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO QUICKLY WORK IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD. (KIMIKO'S WORKPLACE, ETC) BIT BY BIT, I WAS ABLE TO WORK IN THE DETAILS OF THE WAY HER LIFE CHANGED, AND GET THEM IN WITHOUT ANYONE GETTING TIRED OF THEM. THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS TO REFLECT ON, BUT I THINK THAT THE BEST WAS THE SUPPORTING CAST, (KIMIKO'S FAMILY AND SUCH) WHO I FELT I COULD WRITE ABOUT FOREVER. I REALLY FEEL LIKE THEY HAD A LOT GOING ON.

I WAS TRULY LUCKY TO HAVE AN EDITOR LIKE MANGA TOWN'S MR. RIN, WHO GAVE ME THE GIFT OF PUSHING ME DOWN AND RAISING ME UP TO BECOME WHAT I AM TODAY. AND MR. ARIMA'S SINCERE ATTITUDE PUSHED ME TO WORK AS HARD AS I COULD TO MATCH HIM. I WILL GROW EVEN MORE FORM HERE, SO PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON ME.

AND OF COURSE, MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE, I AM GLAD THAT I MET YOU, THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE READ THIS BOOK UP UNTIL NOW. EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE NEVER MET FACE TO FACE, MY LIFE HAS BEEN GREATLY ENRICHED BY YOU. THIS BOOK IS MUCH MUCH LONGER THAN THE FIRST ONE, AND IT'S HOPEFULLY GIVEN YOU SOME OF THE SAME KIND OF FEELING AS HAVING TWO LITTLE BIRDS SITTING UP ON YOUR SHOULDERS.

THANK YOU SO VERY VERY MUCH FOR COMING ALONG ON THIS JOURNEY WITH ME.

MARCH 2004, ON A NIGHT WHEN THE SAKURA PETALS ARE RAINING DOWN

FUMIYO KOUNO

ACTION COMICS
ぴっぴら帳・完結編
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